FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 MARCH 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Fifty-six Iraqi planes attacked an Iranian military camp near Ahvaz 16 March, completely destroying tanks, missiles, and troop concentrations, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique also claimed that Iraqi planes patrolling the Gulf shot down an Iranian F-4 the same day. On the ground, Iraqi troops repelled four Iranian attacks on the forward positions of the Iraqi VII Army Corps front 15 March, the communique added. IRNA cited an Iranian military spokesman's denial that an Iranian F-4 was shot down on 16 March.

Iran asserted that Iraqi planes attacked villages in the Ahvaz area 16 March, killing 3 civilians and wounding 15 others, IRNA reported; while in a statement to INA an Iraqi military spokesman "strongly denied" such claims.

In other military developments, Iraqi planes attacked two "large maritime targets" 17 March, INA announced, citing an Iraqi military spokesman. Earlier Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses over the weekend claimed that Iraqi naval units destroyed an Iranian bridge in the Ra's Abadan area 14 March while Iraqi aircraft shot down an Iranian F-4 and said that Iraqi forces completely eliminated Iranian troops from the Chuwartah area.

In contrast, Iran claimed that its forces in the south crushed a "feeble" Iraqi attack "north of the salt lake" 15 March and that its troops in the Panjwin area continued "mopping-up operations" 13-14 March, according to military statements reported by Tehran radio.

In Tehran, the Air Force commander asserted that the Iraqi city of al-Sulaymaniyah is within the range of Iranian artillery, adding that plans are underway to launch a "full-scale offensive" in the region, IRNA reported 16 March. INA meanwhile claimed that the next battle in the Al-Faw region is "imminent," maintaining that the clash will be "disastrous for the invading Iranian forces."

In related political developments, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned a U.S. statement in support of the Persian Gulf states, claiming that the statement contained "threats" that are "unjustifiable, interventionist, and unacceptable," Tehran radio reported. In Kuwait, the Saudi crown prince announced that Kuwait "will not stand alone in case the war spilled over into its boundaries," KUNA reported 16 March, citing *AL-WATAN*.

Libya

U.S. Naval Exercises — JANA noted the start of "hostile and terrorist maneuvers" by U.S. naval and air forces off the Libyan coast 15 March.

Sudanese Prime Minister's Visit — Sudan supports Libya's "legitimate defense" against any attack which violates its territory or its "sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra," voice of the Greater Arab Homeland reported, citing a statement issued 14 March at the end of a 3-day visit to Libya by Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and other Sudanese officials. In Khartoum, the deputy commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces announced that Libya will soon provide arms to Sudan as part of a military cooperation agreement, according to an interview in *AL-AYYAM* reported by SUNA.

French Hostages in Lebanon

The "Organization of Revolutionary Justice" claimed responsibility for the 8 March kidnapping of a four-man French television crew, Beirut radio reported 14 March. The organization delivered copies of the press credentials of two of the kidnapped newsmen to a Western news agency in Beirut, along with a statement claiming responsibility for the kidnapping and warning France to halt its political and military involvement in Lebanon, the report added.

In France, French envoy Razzah Ra'd revealed that the French hostages could be released "immediately" if Iran and Syria provided "guarantees" to the kidnappers, AFP reported 16 March. However, the Hizballah organization, in a statement broadcast by the Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon 17 March, denied that it had agreed to this condition or that it had been involved in the kidnapping.

In related developments, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 16 march that the French hostages had been transferred to the Al-Biqa' area to thwart any attempt to free them. Damascus radio announced that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received two envoys of the French president 15 March, while AFP revealed 14 March that France had instructed its ambassador to Tunisia to fly to Tehran in order to discuss the Lebanese crisis with the Iranian authorities. In Baghdad, the two Iraqi dissidents pardoned by President Saddam Husayn on 12 March returned to their families, AFP reported 15 March.

OPEC Affairs

The 77th extraordinary OPEC Conference meeting began in Geneva 16 March with all 13 member countries represented, OPECNA reported. The agency later reported that in their 16 March session, the oil ministers discussed reports by OPEC's market monitoring committee and its special committee on defending OPEC's "fair share" of the oil market. Meanwhile, Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani told Britain's *THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH that oil prices could fall to $8* per barrel. Shaykh Yamani questioned the value of a proposal by Libya, Algeria, and Iran on halting oil production for up to 4 weeks, adding that "it is just not practical to ask the weaker producer nations to join in a longer shutdown." Yamani said the drop in oil prices had caused a "very grave situation" in some OPEC countries, noting that some of these states "could be heading for political upheavals."

In a separate development, the Kuwaiti oil minister told the conference participants that Kuwait is prepared to cut its oil production below its OPEC quota provided the other OPEC members abide by a new production quota system, KUNA reported.

DRA

UN Commission Report on Human Rights — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs rejected a UN commission's report on the human rights situation in Afghanistan, terming it a "collection of groundless slanders and accusations" to which "no impartial person" will pay any attention, Kabul radio reported.

Bombing of Bus — In Herat, a bomb planted by "counterrevolutionary criminals" exploded on a city bus 12 March, killing eight people and injuring nine others, according to an earlier Kabul radio report.

Pakistan Protests Shelling — Pakistan lodged a "strong protest" with the DRA charge d'affaires in Islamabad over the DRA artillery shelling of two areas in Khurram Agency 11 and 14 March, Karachi radio reported. The 11 March bombardment killed two Afghan refugees and injured three others, the report added.

Syria

A truck full of explosives blew up in Damascus' Al-'Abbasiyin Square 13 March, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio subsequently claimed that over 100 people were killed or injured in the blast, which occurred a short distance away from a building occupied by "Soviet experts."

Saudi Arabia-PLO

King Fahd received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Riyadh 15 March, SPA reported. AFP later reported that following 'Arafat's visit, Saudi Arabia gave the PLO representative in Riyadh a check for $28.5 million in continuation of its regular support for the organization.

Egypt

Gunfire heard in the Cairo suburb of Al-Ma'adi the morning of 17 March was due to scheduled routine military exercises at a camp in the area, an Egyptian security source told INA. However, MENA subsequently cited an Interior Ministry source as saying that guards at Turah prison had fired warning shots into the air when two inmates made an escape attempt the morning of 17 March.

Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces captured a Sudanese Army garrison along the Jonglei Canal, SPLA radio reported 15 March.

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Tripoli: Fatah Faction Calls For 'Arafat's Removal

LD161513 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] A statement by the loyal members of the Palestine National Salvation Front — Fatah — has been circulated in Khartoum on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Fatah's establishment in 1965. The statement calls for withholding confidence in 'Arafat and demands the selection of a collective leadership to determine the organization's general policy on all levels.

The statement calls for choosing a new PLO Executive Committee chairman, pointing out that the Fatah movement's loyal members intend to organize their supporters and members in clandestine cells within the Fatah movement to enable them to carry out their struggling national mission to correct the movement from within and to return it to the sound revolutionary course.

Palestinian Factions' Mediation Reported Underway

GF161816 Manama WAKH in English 1625 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, March 16 (WAKH) — Mediation within Palestinian factions is underway, the Saudi newspaper *AL-RIYADH* said today.

The newspaper said that ex-speaker of the Palestine National Council Khalid al-Fahum had launched the mediation effort and briefed all opposing factions mainly the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Dr George Habash.

Such a mediation initiative had also been encouraged by Syrian Vice President 'abd al-Halim Khaddam.

PLO Representative Arrives in Athens 13 Mar

JN141854 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] PLO representative in Greece Brother Fu'ad al-Bitar has arrived in Athens. In a statement upon arrival in Athens yesterday, he said that he would work to promote the current relations of solidarity between the PLO and all Greek political parties. It has been learned that the PLO's mission has been enjoying diplomatic status since 1981.

'Text' of APU Conference Resolutions Issued

JN141000 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Mar 86 p 6

["Text" of resolutions issued by fourth Arab Parliamentary Union conference in Amman 13 March 1986]

[Text] **U.S. and Zionist Threats**

The fourth Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] conference, noting that the United States and the Zionist entity are escalating their violation of all international norms and rights and increasing their threats againt Arab countries, particularly the Syrian Arab Republic and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and also noting with grave concern the U.S. and Zionist slander against Syria and Libya, decides the following:

The conference strongly condemns the provocative air and naval exercises and serious encroachments by U.S. fleets in cooperation with the Zionist entity near Arab airspace and territorial waters. It considers the U.S. threats, the provocative military exercises, and interception of civilian aircraft acts of piracy and international state terrorism, as well as a U.S. relinquishment of its commitments and responsibilities as a permanent UN Security Council member that should protect world peace and security. It calls on the international community to adopt all feasible measures to put an end once and for all to such piratical acts which threaten peace and security in the region and the world and which conflict with the most elementary international rights. It also reiterates its condemnation of the Zionist enemy's bombardment of the peaceful Tammuz nuclear reactor in Iraq and denounces the Zionist threats to repeat such attacks on Iraqi and Arab nuclear installations.

The Palestinian Question

Reaffirming the the resolutions of successive APU conferences and council sessions on the Palestine question and the resolutions of various Arab summits on this question, especially the resolutions of the Rabat summit in 1974, the Baghdad summit in 1978, the Fes summit in 1982, and the extraordinary Casablanca summit in 1985, and in accordance with the provisions of the Palestinian National Charter, the resolutions of the successives PNC sessions, the Declaration of Human Rights, and the UN Charter;

And reaffirming what has become obvious to us all that the present conflict between the Arab nation on the one hand and world Zionism and its Israeli protege on the other is one of existence and destiny and that Israel's aggressive policy of annexation and gradual expansion is actually aimed at the entire Arab land to plunder its resources, displace its people, and place the entire Arab region under imperialist-Zionist hegemony before forcing an Arab surrender with the help of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance and the United States' unlimited material and moral support for the Zionist entity,

The conference resolves as follows:

The Palestine question, the central issue of the Arab nation, is the real crux of the conflict between the Arabs and their Zionist and imperialist enemies for which all Arab resources and capabilities mut be pooled to assert Arab rights in Palestine. Therefore, it is impermissible for any Arab state to tackle this issue separately outside the Arab community and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Any settlement of this issue must enjoy the approval of this organization to assert the national rights of the Palestinian people;

Rejects all agreements and plans that do not achieve the Palestinian people's national rights;

Calls on all Arab states to honor their financial obligations under the Baghdad summit resolution and to try to increase these obligations so the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland can continue their struggle by all means and remain steadfast in their homeland against the confiscation of their land and property and also against the Zionist enemy's expansionist settlement plans and measures to starve the people, keep them backward, and deprive them of work as a prelude to deporting them;

Affirms the resolution adopted by the APU Council's 15th session in Aden in 1985 concerning independent Palestinian national decisionmaking;

Affirms that there can be no just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East without the Zionist enemy's withdrawal from all Arab territories and recognition fo the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights in their homeland and to self-determination and establishment of their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO;

Calls on the Palestinian resistance groups to close and unify their ranks in accordance with the Palestinian National Charter. It also calls on the Arab states to work for the success of Palestinian reconciliation within the PLO's legitimate institutions and to remove any obstacles preventing such reconciliation;

Hails our steadfast people in the occupied homeland and appreciates their heroic struggle the imperialist-Zionist onslaught directed against our Arab nation;

Affirms the resolutions which the Arab interior ministers adopted during their last meetings in Rabat and Tunis, especially those extending to Palestinian travel documents issued by a host country the same treatment as the passports of that country to ensure freedom of work and movement. The council calls on Arab parliaments to issue legislation to facilitate the implementation of these resolutions as warranted;

Condemns the United States for ignoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and for its blatant bias toward the Zionist enemy by unlimited support for the Zionist military power and by signing the strategic alliacne agreement with Israel and encouraging Zionist aggression by all means and in all fields;

Calls on international organizations, including the UN Security Council and General Assembly, and all world governments and parliaments to exert every effort to stop the human massacres and all acts of terrorism committed by the Zionist entity against citizens inside and outside the occupied areas and to put an end to the confiscation of Arab land and the establishment of Zionist settlements on it;

Considers the Fes summit resolutions, on which the Arab leaders were unanimous, as the minimum for any political action to achieve a lasting, just, and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question within the framework of an effective international conference to be called for by the UN secretary general and to be attended by all parties concerned, including the PLO, the two superpowers — the USSR and the United States — and the UN Security Council permanent members;

Hails our righteous martyrs who set for us the highest example of sacrifice so we can continue on their course until victory or martyrdom.

The Golan and Threats Against Syria

The fourth APU conference, while emphasizing the Arab nation's absolute right to protect its territory, maintain its sovereignty and independence, and aspire for its unity as well as its right to employ all methods to stand in the face of the Zionist-imperialist aggression and liberate the occupied Arab territory, and while stressing that this right is both firm and inalienable, decides the following:

It expresses its support for the Syrian Arab Republic and its people in defending Syria's sovereignty and steadfastness against the hostile Zionist-imperialist policy which is based on occupation and resort to force and hegemony. It condemns the threats leveled against Syria and announces that any aggression against Syria is considered aggression against the entire Arab nation. It also considers Syria's security as part of the Arab nation's security.

The conference also expresses its pride in the heroic struggle of our kinfolk in the occupied Golan Heights and praises their steadfastness and adherence to their national identity, their resistance of the oppressive and terrorist acts, and their defiance of the policy of annexation and repression practiced by the Zionist occupation forces. It stresses that the Golan is Syrian Arab territory and any annexation of this territory to Israel is considered hostile and illegal action.

The Iraq-Iran War

The fourth parliamentary conference, recalling the resolutions of the APU sessions and conferences on the Iraq-Iran war as well as the Arab League Charter, the joint Arab defense pact, and the Fes summit resolution on this war; gravely concerned over the continuation of the war for more than 5 and 1/2 years without the emergence of a single ray of hope to reach a peaceful, comprehensive, and just settlement due to Iran's intransigence and negative stand despite massive human and material losses; warning of the dangers posed by the recent Iranian attack on the Al-Faw area in southern Iraq; very concerned over the possible extension of the war to neighboring countries in the Arab Gulf as a result of Iran's threats and incitement of disturbances; warning that expanding the war opens the door to foreign interference that jeopardizes stability, security, and peace in this part of the world, has decided to:

Condemn the recent Iranian invasion of Iraqi territory and the grave escalation of the war, which further squanders the human and material resources of the two neighborly countries. The conference calls for the Iranian forces' withdrawal from all Iraqi territory;

Call for stopping war immediately, ending all ground, air, and sea military operations, withdrawing forces to the internationally recognized borders, reopening ports, and guaranteeing the freedom of international navigation in the Arab Gulf for all countries, including Iraq and Iran;

Achieve an unconditional peaceful, comprehensive, and just settlement of all aspects of armed conflict between the two neighborly countries through direct or indirect negotiations that guarantee the two sides' rights, safeguard their national sovereignty, and prevent any interference in internal affairs;

Conduct a comprehensive exchange of prisoners of war between the two countries and adhere in letter and spirit to the 1949 Geneva conventions;

Call on the Arab governments to carry out their pan-Arab commitments and extend all forms of material and moral assistance to Iraq in its just defense of its sovereignty and independence and the Arab nation's rights and dignity;

Emphasize that pan-Arab security is indivisible and that all Iranian threats to the Arab Gulf states are rejected and denounced. All types of material and moral support should be extended to these states to enhance their steadfastness against the Iranian threats;

Highly appreciate Iraq's response to and approval of all resolutions passed by the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, the Nonaligned Movement, and the ICO. The conference calls on Iran to accept these resolutions and international and regional peace efforts;

Appeal to the IPU, the regional unions, and national parliaments to redouble their efforts and urge their governments to exert further efforts to end the tragic war between Iraq and Iran.

The Followup Committee

In view of the pan-Arab bonds linking the Arab countries; due to the serious, delicate, and complicated situation through which the Arab nation is passing; as an expression of the need for Arab solidarity, unity, and consolidation of joint Arab action as stated in the speeches delivered by the speakers of Arab parliaments and heads of delegations to the conference; in implementation of previous APU resolutions in this regard; and in conformity with the spirit and provisions of the charter, the conference decided to form a committee from the chairman of the conference and four members from the member parliamentary branches to follow up implementation of the resolutions adopted by the APU sessions and conferences.

This committee will be entrusted to exert efforts and contact Arab governments for the sake of achieving Arab solidarity and a unified stand toward the problems facing the Arab nation, bolstering joint Arab action with all possible means and available capabilities, reactivating the effectiveness of Arab institutions in the field of joint Arab action, informing parliamentary branches of the results achieved, and presenting a comprehensive report in this regard to the 18th APU council.

The Current Arab Situation and Steadfastness Means

The fourth Arab parliament conference,

Proceeding from its awareness of the danger of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught that has begun to threaten the Arab nation's existence, unity, interests, and free will;

Affirming that the only choice left for the Arab people is to face this aggression on a comprehensive Arab level and to mobilize the Arab masses so they can play their role in the battle of liberation and defense of the Arab homeland;

Considering that the main threaten to the Arab nation — land, people, and existence — is the Zionist enemy, who obtains all kinds of support and protection from the United States so it can continue its aggressive, expansionist policy, which is not only directed against Palestine and the neighboring Arab territories, but also seeks to dominate the entire Arab region;

And recalling the resolutions of successive APU conferences and council sessions on the crucial challenges facing the Arab nation and the need to ensure the steadfastness necessary to confront these challenges, especially the resolutions adopted by the council's 12th session in Kuwait on the need to pool Arab resources, condemn the policy of the United States and boycott it economically and politically, and work seriously for achieving a strategic parity with the Zionist enemy that will ensure the removal of aggression, threats, and attempts at imperialist hgemony, decides to:

Intensify the confrontation and all forms of struggle against the Zionist-imperialist enemy, pool all the resources of the Arab nation for the battle of liberation, reject all partial and separate solutions and all kinds of political moves that could undermine the Arab nation's unity and sovereignty over its territory, and work for the establishment of an Arab strategic party to confront the Zionist-imperialist alliance;

Urge the Arab governments to clear the air between them and build an effective Arab solidarity that will remove all present and future dangers, safeguard Arab honor and sovereignty, provide Arab efforts for confronting Zionist-imperialist aggression, and ensure abidance by the Arab League Charter, the Arab collective defense pact, and Arab summit resolutions;

Strongly condemn U.S. policy which, on the one hand, strengthens the strategic alliance with Israel to the point of making Israel a partner in the SDI project and, on the other, slights Arab stands and pursues provocative, terrorist measures against the Arab nation;

Call on the Arab governments to redouble their assistance and support for the steadfastness of our Arab people in Lebanon, the Golan, and the occupied Palestinian territory and to try to increase aid assigned for the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied territory so that they will remain firm and foil all Zionist enemy plans to deport them;

Support the Egyptian Arab people in their struggle to free themselves from the Camp David chains and to return Egypt to the Arab fold so it can play its effective, historic role in the pan-Arab battle against Zionism and imperialism;

Call for the investment of Arab funds in economic and social development and to emphasize the Amman summit resolutions to separate joint Arab economic action from political differences, to distinquish between friend and foe in political, economic, cultural, and all other dealings, and to take tangible steps to maintain international relations on the basis of other nations' positions on the rights of the Palestinian people and other crucial Arab issues;

Reinforce and deepen the parliamentary process, expand the democratic base, and involve the Arab masses in decisionmaking to promote democracy as an essential basis for mobilizing the Arab masses, freeing their struggle energies and initiatives so they can cope with major challenges;

Safeguard and consolidate basic rights and liberties and defend human rights in the Arab homeland as stipulated in international covenants and charters since they constitute the cornerstone for democratic reconstruction and are a basic condition for Arab steadfastness against aggression and a vital element in the battle to liberate the land and the homeland.

The Lebanese Situation

The conference greets the heroic struggle of all factions of the Palestinian people against the Zionist invasion. It also greets the heroic daily armed Palestinian resistance struggle in the south to achieve the unconditional withdrawal of Zionist forces from its territory;

Condemns and denounces the Zionist entity's continued occupation of Lebanese territory and bloody armed attacks on Lebanese villages and towns as well as its acts of air, ground, and sea piracy against the Lebanese people and the human d massacres and acts of murder and mass arrests it is committing;

Calls on Arab governments to redouble Arab aid to Lebanon against the Zionist occupation and to help Lebanon achieve complete liberation. The council also calls for the need to translate this aid into practical and tangible actions. The council reminds the Arab governments of the Tunis Arab summit resolutions which provide for economic and financial aid to Lebanon and calls on these government to implement these resolutions and to form committees at the foreign, economic, or finance ministers level in order to ensure the means of steadfastness for Lebanon in the economic, construction, financial, dipomatic, and information fields;

Calls on the United Nations to work seriously for the implementation of the Security Council resolutions which stipulate the Zionist forces' unconditional withdrawal from Lebanese territory, especially Resolutions 425, 508, and 509;

Supports Lebanon's efforts to renew the UN Emergency Forces' mandate, strengthen their role, and ensure the necessary funding for them;

Appreciates the efforts and sacrifices made by Syria to support Lebanon and the process of accord in it, preserve its unity and independence, and bolster the national resistance in southern Lebanon to liberate the Lebanese homeland and expel the Zionist invaders. The council calls for cooperation with these efforts.

General Resolution

Upon reviewing the current international situation and in completion of the discussions it held on agenda topics, the fourth APU conference decided the following:

To bolster Arab-African relations and cooperation in various fields, deal with the dangers of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Zionist entity and some African countries, and adopt a decisive Arab stance that would prevent implementation of Zionist-imperialist schemes aimed at weakening Arab African cohesion;

To express its support for efforts to achieve detente in international relations, alleviate tension, halt the arms race, and bring about nuclear disarmament, and its condemnation of all programs aimed at expanding the scope of nuclear armament and militarization of space ("star wars");

To support peoples and national liberation movements in various continents in their struggle against colonialism, Zionism, and fascism; to support the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South African against discrimination and for their liberation and progress; to support the struggle of the peoples of Latin and Central America agaisnt fascism, exploitation, and U.S. hegemony; and to consider all forms of resistance a legitimate right of peoples struggling for their freedom against occupation. Such resistance should not be viewed as terrorism to which peoples and their supporters are exposed, which should be condemned internationally.

PLO Radio Details Attack on Israeli Patrol, Buses

JN131853 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate their military operations against enemy personnel, targets, and vital land military installations throughout our occupied Palestinian land.

Following are details of these operations:

1. Our heroes from the martyr Lina al-Nabulsi group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant an explosive charge inside a bus belonging to the Zionist Dan bus company while it was parked in Tel Aviv. The charge exploded at 0605 today, Thursday, while the bus was travelling on the Al-Jiyyah road between Petah Tiqva and Tel Aviv.

A number of enemy personnel working in Zionist factories were injuried and part of the bus was destroyed. After erecting a large number of barricades in the area, the enemy forces began an extensive search and arrested scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of involvement in the operation.

2. Our revolutionaries launched an incendiary bomb attack at 1200 yesterday against a bus used to transport Zionist soldiers near the Al-'Arrub refugee camp north of Hebron in the occupied West Bank. The bus sustained grave damage and a passenger was wounded. The enemy forces cordoned off the scene of the operation, began to comb the area, and arrested a large number of the camp residents on the pretext of interrogating them about the operation.

3. Our revolutionaries from the special group Alif operating inside the occupied homeland launched a hand grenade and incendiary bomb attack against a Zionist military vehicle as it was on patrol duty north of the Jabalya refugee camp. The vehicle was damaged and two of its occupants were wounded. This took place at 2200 on 11 March 1986. Immediately afterward, the Zionist army and security forces cordoned off the area, began an intensive search including the Jabalya refugee camp and the Bayt Lahya housing project, and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of involvement in the operation. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted these operations but did not mention losses.

Joint Forces Shell Israeli Settlements

JN161813 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1711 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces used Katyushas to shell the settlement of Nahariyya in northern occupied Palestine yesterday. The rockets hit their targets accurately, causing huge fires to break out in the Zionist settlement, and several enemy personnel were killed or wounded. The joint forces also shelled the Zionist settlement of [name indistinct] yesterday. The rockets hit a runway used for warplanes.

Reportage on Extraordinary Geneva Conference

Session Opens

LD161124 Vienna OPECNA in English 1040 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 16 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — The 77th (extraordinary) meeting of the OPEC conference opened here this morning, with all 13 member countries represented.

The meeting is expected to receive three reports - those of the Special Committee on Fair Market Share, the Ministerial Executive Council and the Market Monitoring Committee.

The Special Committee was established last December to examine ways of 'securing and defending' for OPEC a fair share of the world oil market consistent with the necessary income for member countries' development.

The committee, comprising the oil ministers of Venezuela, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, met in Vienna last month and recommended that OPEC should set a new production ceiling higher than the present 16 million b/d [barrels per day].

Both the Ministerial Executive Council and the Market Monitoring Committee met here Saturday.

Kuwait Prepared To Cut Production

LD161843 Kuwait KUNA in English 1620 GMT 16 Mar 86

[by Shamel Khairi]

[Text] Kuwait, March 16 (KUNA)— Kuwait announced Sunday [16 March] that it is prepared to curtail its oil production below its OPEC quota in order to boost oil prices back to normal levels.

Addressing the ministers in their first session of the OPEC conference, which opened in Geneva Sunday, Kuwait's Oil and Industry minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah said his country would cut down its 900,000 b/d [barrels per day] OPEC production quota if other member states adhere fully to a new production quota system.

"We are ready to discuss new OPEC production quota system if all 13 members strictly adhere to its articles without any exceptions," the Kuwaiti minister stated.

He underlined that member states should cut down the production of petroleum by-products in addition to crude oil.

In his address, a copy of which was made available to KUNA here, the minister said "we cannot accept to cut our production while other countries increase their exports of petroleum by-products, since that would have adverse effects on the market."

Shaykh 'Ali said Kuwait is ready to cut down its production for a third time in order to defend the oil prices. Kuwait has slashed its oil production twice since 1983.

"At one time, our production fell to 600,000 b/d so we can defend the OPEC pricing structure, although Kuwait's capacity output can touch 4 million b/d and the country has the second largest proven oil reserve in the world," the minister said.

The Kuwaiti minister said his country is ready to cooperate with its OPEC partners in re-stabilizing the oil market "because just like the others, we object to selling our oil at the current low prices."

In the December 1985 conference, Kuwait clearly pointed to the perilous practices by some OPEC members whose production exceeded their quota, Shaykh 'Ali said.

He pointed out that these countries had also violated the OPEC pricing structure which later resulted in an oil price slump and the loss of control over the oil market.

The Kuwaiti oil minister said his country did not request an increase in its production quota or cutdowns of prices, while seven other OPEC members demanded a quota hike at a time when the production ceiling was under pressure to decline.

Kuwaiti Minister Sets Conditions

AU162145 Paris AFP in English 2137 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 16 (AFP) — Kuwait's Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa tonight set stringent conditions for a possible deal with radical OPEC countries to stabilize oil prices.

"We are willing to make sacrifices. We are not willing to make disproportionate sacrifices," he told a group of reporters.

He was implicitly responding to a joint call by Algeria, Iran and Libya for sharp cutbacks in OPEC production in order to check the slide of crude prices.

Shaykh al-Khalifa said that if all OPEC countries abided by their quotas under the 16 million barrels a day (mbd) production celing set in October 1984, and reduced their output "from that amount", then Kuwait was "willing to do the same."

There could be "no exception" to this principle, Shaykh al-Khalifa said, stressing that Kuwait would not be prepared to reduce its output more than any other OPEC member

And "if any country breaches the rule, Kuwait will feel free to do whatever it wants," he said.

Iraq and Ecuador have been producing over 50 percent in excess of their 1984 quotas since last year, and have repeatedly called for an increased share in OPEC's overall output.

Iraq last year boosted its exports via a new pipeline outlet by 500,000 barrels a day, and has said it is not ready to revert to its formal quota of 1.2 mbd.

Ecuador, which has a quota of 180,000 barrels a day but is currently producing 300,000 barrels daily, has invoked its heavy external debt and argues that its output is less then two per cent of the OPEC total.

Shaykh al-Khalifa also asserted that OPEC production and pricing arrangements, which have so far only applied to crude oil, must also be extended to condensates — lighy hydrocarbon liquids associated with natural gas. Condensates account for one-quarter of Algeria's earnings from petroleum and gas.

Qatari Oil Minister Arrives

GF160852 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 15 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh 'abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari minister of finance and oil, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Geneva today to attend the meeting of the OPEC ministerial council which will begin tomorrow [16 March].

Shaykh 'abd al-'aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani noted that this meeting of the OPEC ministerial council is being convened in critical and difficult circumstances through which the OPEC countries are passing as a result of the sharp fluctuations in the international oil market and the effects of this situation on our countries' local economies and on the international economic situation in general.

He pointed out that if the OPEC members are the ones which bear the direct effects of this unstable situation, the oil-producing countries outside OPEC have begun to feel its complications and negative effects on their economies in the short and long terms, and the perils which might result from their persistence in their current policies and practices in the oil market.

The Qatari finance and oil minister affirmed that a continuation of the current situation is not in the interest of any party concerned with the crisis — both OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producers. He said this proves that the strategy unanimously adopted by the last OPEC ministerial council in December 1985 was correct. This strategy aimed at securing and protecting just and stable quotas for the OPEC countries in the oil market as the ideal method to defend the interests of the OPEC countries and at the same time to stabilize prices.

In a statement carried by QNA, Shaykh 'abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani said: Even as we adhere to this policy, we notice with concern that the policies of non-OPEC oil-producers have undermined the market and created a sort of disorder in it. These policies have even made those producers a tool in the hands of oil market speculators.

He added: Hence the urgent task our meeting faces within the framework of the strategy approved in December 1985 is that the OPEC countries should agree among themselves on a practical and dynamic formula which will preserve the rights of the OPEC countries and their interests and restore stability and balance to the oil price structure in the international market.

Khamene'i Message Presented

GF170716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The 77th emergency session of OPEC oil ministers opened in Geneva yesterday afternoon. According to the Central News Unit from Geneva, at the beginning of the inaugural session a message from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran was read. In part this message stated: Past experience has shown us that OPEC is one of the most effective Third World organizations which can defend the legitimate interests and rights of these oppressed countries. The main objective of OPEC is to create coordination and unity and to safeguard the interests of all its members. In principle it should adopt a policy which results in stabilization of oil prices in the international market and prevent the deleterious and unnecessary oscillation of the same.

Continuing his message, Mr Khamene'i explained the present crisis in the oil market and assessed the causes and said: The persistence of the present trend, forming of cliques, the presence of discord and disunity among OPEC members, and the inability to take firm and quick decisions only benefit the bigger oil customers.

In conclusion, the message stated: We must now prove that as a united and harmonious organization we are able to defend our national interests against such plots. Hence, in view of the present unwholesome trend, we expect all OPEC member countries to assist OPEC in a thoughtful and selfless manner so that all countries can benefit from it and to combat the present conditions.

Following the reading of the message of our president, a report by the ministerial commission for supervision of the market and the problems confronting it and the plots against OPEC were discussed.

At the conclusion of yesterday's session, the new Nigerian oil minister answered questions by the correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the conspiracy against OPEC and methods to combat the slump in oil prices. He said: We must resist any reduction in oil prices even if we are forced to reduce production.

Iranian, UAE Ministers Meet

LD151535 Tehran IRNA in English 1333 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 15, IRNA — Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, currently here to participate in the 77th meeting of the oil ministers of OPEC countries, met and conferred with his counterpart from the United Arab Emirates Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-Utaybah here Saturday [15 March].

At the meeting, the current situation of the oil market and its short-term prospects were discussed. The two also reviewed Iran and UAE's joint stance vis-a-vis encountering the plot to bring down the oil prices.

Ministers Discuss Market Share

LD161956 Vienna OPECNA in English 1820 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 16 Mar 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers discussed here this afternoon a report prepared by the organization's special 'Market Share' committee, before adjourning until Monday morning.

The second session of the day, presided over by OPEC conference president Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti of Venezuela, lasted about two hours.

The Monday morning meeting, which will be a closed session, will be attended by all ministers accompanied by an aide each.

The OPEC president told journalists at the end of the second session that OPEC was keen to avoid a 'price war' and sharp price drops. He said price levels would be discussed by the ministers at the resumed session Monday morning.

In answer to a question, he said: 'Of course, we are concerned about the sharp drop in oil prices in the last few weeks and this will come up for discussion when we meet in the morning.'

He told newsmen that today's two sessions had been devoted to general statements from the ministers. No 'substantive' issues had come up for discussion.

The report of the special committee, chaired by Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, was prepared following a meeting of the five-member body in Vienna in early February.

The committee, comprising the oil ministers of Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, was set up to formulate ways to secure and defend a fair share of the oil market for OPEC.

During the morning session today, the ministers discussed a report submitted by the ministerial market monitoring committee, chaired by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates.

The monitoring committee, consisting of the oil ministers of Algeria, Ecuador, Iran, Iraq and Libya, met here Saturday.

According to a conference source, today's meetings could be said to have prepared the 'groundwork' for the specific courses of action the OPEC ministers are hoping to take to stabilize the market.

Venezuela: Members Worried

AU161910 Paris AFP in English 1904 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 16 (AFP) — Ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries will get down to the burning issues of sliding oil prices and OPEC's market share on Monday, Venezuela's Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said Sunday.

Briefing reporters after two brief working sessions held by the ministers on the first day of what promises to be one of the most difficult OPEC conferences ever, he said they were "very worried at the sharp drop" in oil prices over the past few weeks.

He said that "all OPEC countries are interested in maintaining and defending reasonable levels of prices and avoiding abrupt price falls." Implicitly suggesting that Saudi Arabia shared this concern, Mr. Hernandez Grisanti insisted that "all the countries" were worried about the decline in prices. He said he expected the ministers to tackle both the price issue and the question of what should be the "fair share" of the world market price that OPEC would be "willing to defend."

Discussions on these two questions were likely to be pursued over the next two days, according to the Venezuelan minister, and said they hoped to hold their planned consultations with non-OPEC producer countries on Wednesday.

Other conference sources said the meeting might be a "long" one, and that the planned talks with six developing oil producing countries would not take place until OPEC countries had settled thier internal business.

Asked what OPEC expects from the other producers, Mr Hernandez Grisanti said they too were "preoccupied over the current market situation."

"I know that many of them are prepared to share the responsibilities in trying to stabilize the market at a reasonable level of prices," he added.

The ministers held two working sessions, each lasting about two hours, and "stated their general position" as well as considering reports from two OPEC ministerial committees, the minister said.

Second Day Activities Begin

LD171054 Kuwait KUNA in English 0946 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 17 (KUNA) — The opening of the full ministerial session of the second day of the present OPEC conference got underway this morning with individual delegations being limited to minister and one aide, OPEC officials said.

The session is expected to last several hours, and a second meeting will be held late in the afternoon, to be followed by a statement from conference president Arturo Grisanti, the officials noted.

Afternoon Talks Commence

LD161605 Vienna OPECNA in English 1552 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 16 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers began the second session of their extraordinary meeting here this afternoon. They had adjourned the morning session after considering a report from the ministerial market monitoring committee.

The six-member monitoring committee met here Saturday under the chairmanship of Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates.

The extraordinary meeting is expected this afternoon to discuss reports of the ministerial executive council and the special committee set up to examine ways of "securing and defending" for OPEC a fair share of the oil market.

Yamani Warns UK of 'Oil Disaster' Responsiblity

LD161014 LONDON SUNDAY TELEGRAPH 16 Mar 86 p 2

["Exclusive interview" with Shayk Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi oil minister, by Gordon Brook-Shepherd from Riyadh: "Yamani Disaster Warning; 'Britain To Blame' If Oil Prices Are Not Controlled"]

[Text] On the eve of his crisis meeting in Geneva, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, warned Britain that unless she cooperates in controlling world prices, "disaster lies ahead for which your country would bear the lion's share of the blame."

Despite the negative responses which continue to come out of London he issued another fervent appeal for Britain to stop standing aside, nursing her national interests, and join in the efforts he is leading to discipline the chaotic energy markets.

The warning and the appeal were made during a wide-ranging exclusive interview I had with the minister at his office here. I asked Shaykh Yamani to spell out, in layman's terms, what precisely he meant by his talk of "disaster ahead." "I mean, quite simply, the future. The oil the world now has is enough for a few decades — in your case for less. We must all continue drilling and exploring and searching for alternative sources, and for that we need money, we need revenue or we shall find ourselves without oil."

"Look, the last two crises of 1973 and 1979 were political, and we could surmount them because we had the resources. But now we face a pure energy crisis for we are diminishing those resources fast. Some fields in the United States are starting to close down with a loss already of 1,800,000 barrels a day. Those fields are being lost forever, as are some in Canada.

"In your own North Sea, output is declining by 20 percent a year. Some bigger Texaco fields are shutting down. And, at current oil prices, which have gone down by half over the last few months, there will be a question mark over several of your smaller companies by the end of the summer.

"You must invest and not just extract at any price. I tell you: if you do not take the decision, nature will take it for you."

Surely, I asked, there was more to this doomsday scenario than Mother Nature, and also something more imminent. "There certainly is", he replied. "we are now facing a very grave situation in some OPEC countries — I will not mention names, but you can probably make your own surmises — where we could be heading for political upheavals, sparked off by financial collapses due to this huge sudden slump in oil prices.

"The best and perhaps the only way to ward this off is for the non-OPEC producers, and above all Britain and Norway to cooperate in price control. Neither of them is coming to Geneva, but I don't despair of getting some talks going afterwards, perhaps in London.

"However, I must say that something odd is going on on this front. Some six weeks ago, the Norwegian oil minister confirmed to me in writing that he was ready to begin reducing output. Within a few days, however, he started to wobble and then the commitment was withdrawn altogether. One is bound to ask one self: who had been talking to him?

Shaykh Yamani is not the most prestigious figure in the oil world for nothing. His own relatively modest office is preceded by a string of four anterooms. They were dotted with Arab visitors in robes of various shades with double cords of black or gold braid around their head dress.

There were also quite a few Japanese, American and European callers. All were being served with sweet tea in tall thin cups or tots of Arab coffee in those tiny saucerless bowls which form automatic hospitality here.

Shaykh Yamani looked absolutely exhausted and he admitted that he was really tired. But there was no weariness in his conversation, conducted in that very quiet and courteous voice which has become one of his hallmarks.

I plunged into the maze of prices. Was it true that some countries had been suggesting drastic action in the form of an immediate and total shutdown of production for up to four weeks to force world prices up? If so, what did he think of the idea? He confirmed the report (without naming the countries behind the scheme where were, in fact, Libya and her two radical allies, Algeria and Iran).

"But what real good would that do?" he asked. "All right. The price might shoot up briefly to $30 but then it would slump right down to say $10 a barrel. And it is just not practical to ask the weaker producer nations to join in a longer shutdown. Don't forget that apart from revenue we here in Saudi Arabia rely on our energy output to keep vital projects going like our huge water desalination programme.

"We have been hit hard enough already by trying to take the strain ourselves to keep world prices steady. That is why we have been forced to postpone our next budget for five months. How can we budget when we don't know what the oil prices will be from one week to the next? It could drop as low as $8 a barrel. I don't say that is probable, but it is possible"

The postponement he referred to, quite unprecedented in modern Saudi Arabian history, had just been announced to the nation in a grave television address by King Fahd himself. This supposedly remote ruler showed that he had mastered the fatherly approach through modern media without shedding any of his dignity.

The announcement means, incidentally, that any British or other foreign businessman now in Saudi Arabia seeking new deals may as well save his company at least 200 pounds sterling a day and return home until the autumn. No new contracts, I was assured by a top official of the Ministry of Planning, will even be considered until then. Existing contracts, like Britain's mammoth 5 billion pounds sterling aircraft deal, are, however, safe.

The talk kept coming back to the North Sea. Surely, I put it to him, a conservative government which had always made its main priority the reduction in inflation could only be expected to welcome lower oil prices which would further that central aim. That was a genuine national interest.

"I respect your leaders and I do not wish to comment on your domestic politics," he replied. "But just look at the plain mathematics, the British treasury is now losing billions of pounds fromreduced oil revenue. Which is better - to have the same income by reduced output at higher prices of by maximum extraction at low prices? Clearly, the former, for it conserves your resources at the same time.

"We must all think long-term and in broad perspective, and not just look at immediate gains, if you go on as you are doing, by the 1990's you will be importing oil yourselves and the 1990's, my friend, are just round the corner".

I ended by asking him whether he had hear of the Earl of Stockton's famous remark about Britain's "selling the family silver." He had not, and it made him laugh. His only comment was that in the case of North Sea oil, the silver had not been in the family for very long.

BAHRAIN

British Official Discusses Iran-Iraq War, Kuwait

GF150614 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 15 Mar 86 p 5

[By Eugene Duffy]

[Text] British Foreign Office Minister Tim Renton has warned that Kuwait is now in a dangerous position "on the frontline" of the Iraq-Iran war. And he has called on both sides to heed to peace measures being urged by the UN Security Council and by the European Community.

"We are deeply concerned about this war not just a permanent member of the Security Council but for humanitarian reasons," said Mr Renton after meeting HH the Amir and Bahrain's foreign minister.

"This war has continued for far too long. Anything we can do as a member of the community of nations and as a friend of Gulf countries we certainly will."

He said both Iran and Iraq should honour the "sovereignty and total integrity" of neighbouring states.

"I am aware of the degree Iran appears to have been calling Kuwait's attention to its dangerous position," said Mr Renton. "Kuwait is almost on the frontline. It is extremely difficult for it not to get involved by mistake in this war — for example by Iraqi planes flying over Kuwait."

Britain's position, he said, was to urge peace and to provide no military aid to either side.

"We have exercised for more than a year an extremely strict policy on export licences under which the export and sale of any military equipment from Britain that could prolong the war is forbidden," he said. "I wish all other countries were as strict as us."

Outside of the UN or EEC, Mr Renton said Britain could do little to bring about a settlement independently owing to the "low level" of diplomatic relations with Iran.

"But after discussions with Bahrain's foreign minister I will be considering very carefully with my own foreign minister whether there is more we can do in conversation with Iran," he said.

After Thursday's visit to Bahrain Mr Renton flew to Doha for a two-day meeting of British ambassadors to the Gulf.

Kuwaiti Official Arrives to Discuss GCC Security

GF161817 Manama WAKH in English 1635 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, March 16 (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Interior Undersecretary General Yusuf Badr al-Khurafi arrived here today at the head of a delegation on a three-day visit to the island. The visit comes to further reinforce security cooperation among GCC member countries.

Al-Khurafi was received by Bahrain's Deputy Director General of Public Security Brigadier Shaykh Ibrahim ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah, Kuwaiti ambassador to Bahrain Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Mubaraki and top police officers.

Al-Khurafi is accompanied by senior Interior Ministry officials.

PDRY Foreign Minister Ends Visit, Leaves for Qatar

GF150630 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 14 Mar (WAKH) — Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him left for Doha this evening after a 2-day visit to Bahrain within his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

Foreign Minister on Arab Summit, Other Issues

GF161748 Manama WAKH in English 1545 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 16 (WAKH) — Bahrain's Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak called for the convening of an Arab summit conference to settle the current inter-Arab differences.

In an interview with Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, published here Sunday, the Bahraini minister suggested an Arab summit as a practical step to end this ordeal.

He added that this summit should not only conclude with strong resolutions but be resolved to implement the adopted resolutions.

Shaykh Muhammad criticised the previous Arab summit conferences for issuing resolutions that were not implemented, particularly resolutions on applying the joint Arab defence agreement.

"If the situation remains like this...then it is better not to take teethless decisions," he added.

The Bahraini official referred to the joint Arab defence pact, regarding Iraq, by saying "there is a known Arab stance that Iraq is an integral part of the Arab nation and any aggression on it means an aggression on the Arab nation."

Shaykh Muhammad stressed that the Iraq-Iran war has an impact on the region and a unified stance should be taken toward it, noting that the Gulf Cooperation Council states and Islamic good-offices committee called for a halt of "this destructive war" to seek peace is the only means of achieving security and stability in the region and to keep it away from foreign dangers," he added. [sentence quotation marks as received]

KUWAIT

UAE Paper: Minister Denies Cabinet To Be Reshuffled

GF150800 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0745 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Mar (WAM) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has denied any inclination to make a Cabinet reshuffle in Kuwait at present.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that Kuwait will reduce its next budget by 25 percent as a result of the current economic situation. This reduction will not affect the level of services the state renders to citizens, he said.

Concerning loans Kuwait extends to African countries, he said: Actual instructions have been issued to the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development not to give any loans or aid to African countries which resume relations with Israel.

Saudi Crown Prince on Support Should Gulf War Expand

LD162052 Kuwait KUNA in English 1623 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 16 (KUNA) — Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was quoted here as asserting that Kuwait will not stand alone should the Gulf war expand out of Iraqi and Iranian territories.

In a meeting with Arab litterateurs, Prince 'Abdallah said "Kuwait should rest assured that it will not stand alone in case the war spilled over into its boundaries, *AL-WATAN* newspaper reported from Riyadh. [no end quotes as received]

He noted that the visit by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Abkbar Velayeti to Riyadh did not achieve its goals and that dispatching the Saudi foreign minister to Tehran was in response to persistent Iranian invitations.

Speaking on the prospect of resuming diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union, Prince 'Abdallah said Saudi Arabia has preset conditions for restoring relations with Moscow.

He, however, declined to elaborate on these conditions.

Finance Minister Says ICO Yet to Achieve Goals

LD141608 Kuwait KUNA in English 0841 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 14 (KUNA) — Finance and Economy Minister Jasim al-Khurafi said Friday the Standing Economic Committee of the Islamic Conference Organization has not yet achieved its aspired goals.

In a statement to KUNA and ANATOLIA NEWS AGENCY before leaving to Istanbul heading Kuwait's delegation to the commission's meetings, Al-Khurafi said "better results can be attained if dialogue and goodwill prevail."

The minister said Turkey's good relations with all ICO members are becoming a great asset to efforts of advancing the commission's pre-set goals.

Turkey's President Kenan Evren was assigned by the Casablanca January 1984 ICO summit to chair the commission.

On Kuwaiti-Turkish relations, Al-Khurafi disclosed that a trade agreement between the two countries has been finalized and waiting for final endorsement.

The minister noted that since his last trip to Turkey he has witnessed a surge in the economic cooperation level between the two countries.

"Kuwaiti and Turkish private sector companies are discussing joint ventures, products from Turkey are increasing in our market and investment agencies are exploring new horizons of cooperation between them," he elaborated.

Al-Khurafi stated that he might hold fringe talks with Turkish vice president for economic affairs on an investment guarantee agreement and other economic issues.

AL-QABAS on 'New U.S.-Libyan Confrontation'

GF141608 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 13 Mar 86 p 21

[Text] Paris — *AL-QABAS* has obtained information that reveals the existence of a new U.S. plan to create military naval and air confrontation with Libya. *AL-QABAS* obtained this information from Western diplomatic sources who are well-informed of what is taking place in Washington concerning relations with Libya. Informed U.S. sources have implicitly, but clearly confirmed this information to *AL-QABAS*. The details of this important issue are as follows:

The new U.S. plan was drawn up after the Reagan administration discovered, through its discussions and analyses concerning the results of the initial stage of the confrontation between the United States and Libya, that Washington's efforts in this regard over the past 2 months have failed. In January and February 1986, after the Vienna and Rome operations of December 1985, the Reagan administration sought to secure a unified Arab-West European front against Libya on the basis that it is "the principal source and primary axis of international terrorism", according to the allegations of official U.S. sources.

The results of these efforts, however, were as follows:

1 — The Reagan administration failed to prove in a clear and definite way that Libya was behind the attacks on the Vienna and Rome airports in December 1985. The evidence to this effect that U.S. officials carried to European capitals was feeble and did not convince the concerned European parties.

2 — The Reagan administration failed to persuade the European countries to join a campaign of economic, military, and trade boycotts against Libya for several reasons, some of which were connected with a lack of conviction that such boycotts would

work. Some were connected with a rejection to join the U.S. war out of fear that this would cause an Arab-European crisis.

3 — The Reagan administration failed to obtain even an implicit European agreement on the need to direct a punitive military strike against Libya.

4 — The Reagan administration failed in its attempt to isolate Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the Arab level. It also failed in its efforts to persuade a number of Arab countries to abstain from extending support and assistance to Libya in case it needed help.

5 — In the opinion of a prominent U.S. source, the Reagan administration's campaign against Colonel al-Qadhdhafi benefited the Libyan leader on the Arab level and helped him gain popularity, particularly as the United States made threats but did not carry out any practical step, except to impose a U.S. economic boycott on Libya. Even this economic boycott contains some gaps. After the failure of the experiment of the past 2 months, discussions took place within the Reagan administration, particularly in the State and Defense Departments concerning the stand that the United States should adopt toward Libya.

AL-QABAS has learned from well-informed Western sources that these discussions dealt in particular with two principal choices:

1 — Will the Reagan administration accept mediation between itself and Libya which some European and Arab parties and figures are carrying out, and seek to turn over a new leaf in its relations with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi?

2 — Will the Reagan administration continue to cling to the principle of confrontation and the use of force against Libya and the rejection of the concept of dialogue with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi?

According to well-informed Western sources, *AL-QABAS* can affirm that the White House instructions, particularly the instructions issued by President Reagan which have been approved by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, clearly indicate the need to adopt a new plan to confront Libya. *AL-QABAS* reveals the details of this plan to be carried out in the Mediterranean Sea. The plan includes the following major points:

— To send a U.S. flotilla to the Mediterranean Sea to remain near the Libyan shores for not less than 6 months. This plan implies the participation of three U.S. aircraft carriers — *America, Saratoga,* and *Coral Sea* — two other ships loaded with medium and long-range missiles, two destroyers, two logistic vessels, and two other vessels.
— This flotilla will conduct aerial and naval maneuvers in mid-March near Libyan territorial waters.
— On a predetermined day, Washington will issue orders for the three aircraft carriers to enter the Strait of Sidra suddenly and without previous warning and without informing the Libyan authorities. According to the U.S. plan, Libya will consider this step a declaration of war since Libyan officials view the Strait of Sidra as part of its territorial waters which no country or vessel has the right to enter without official Libyan permission.
— According to this plan, it is expected that Libyan fighters will take off from their bases to attack the aircraft carriers or to confront U.S. fighters taking off from the aircraft carriers. Hence a U.S.-Libyan military, naval, and aerial confrontation will take place in the Strait of Sidra. Moreover the situation might develop further to the extent that U.S. fighters would raid certain locations and bases inside Libyan territory.

This is the plan which has been obtained by *AL-QABAS* from Western sources.

AL-QABAS has asked a U.S. source close to the Reagan administration to comment on this information. His verbal answer was as follows: I do not want to go into details, but I can confirm that the Reagan administration still believes in military action against Libya. It is not at all out of the question that a great U.S.-Libyan confrontation might take place in the Strait of Sidra.

The implementation of this plan almost began last Monday when the aircraft carrier *America*, accompanied by a number of vessels, left Norfolk, Virginia for the Libyan shores. The aircraft carriers *Saratoga* and *Coral Sea*, which are currently in the Mediterranean Sea with other vessels, will later join the aircraft carrier *America*. With the departure of the U.S. fleet, the countdown for the new U.S.-Libyan confrontation has begun.

Trials Begin on Bomb Attempt, Antiregime Leaflets

GF161752 Manama WAKH in English 1645 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 16 (WAKH) — Kuwait's state security court Sunday sentenced 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Ali Karim, a Lebanese national, to 15 years imprisonment and deportation on charges of planning to bomb the Doha water desalination plant. The court acquitted another Lebanese national, 'Abdallah 'Ali Karim, from charges in the same case.

The court convicted three other Lebanese nationals, tried in absentia, to 15 years imprisonment each in the case and decided on confiscation of the molotov bombs seized in this connection.

The three fugitive convicts are Hasan Nasr Allah Karim, Jalal Kamal Rida and Ahmad Yusuf Fughani.

The state security court opened the trial of this case February 16 and, according to court officials, today's punishment passed against the accused is the severest under the laws in force.

The court today started trial of a four-member group accused of public incitement to topple the existing regime by force.

The accused, one Kuwaiti national, an Egyptian and two Lebanese and Egyptian women face charges of printing leaflets inciting the public to change the regime by illegal means and containing derogatory statements against the amiri personality in addition to trespassing against government property by taking away quantities of paper belonging to the Kuwaiti Army.

The main defendent is the accused Kuwaiti while the three others face the charge of being his accessories in the crime. The first admitted the charge of taking away paper belonging to the army but denied other charges levelled against him as did the three other defendants.

At the request of the prosecution, the court decided to hold its session behind closed doors.

OMAN

Defense Official Receives Saudi, Bahraini Commanders

GF151934 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Muscat, 15 Mar (WAKH) — Staff Major General Hamid ibn Sa'id al-'Awfi, assistant chief of the Defense Staff in the Sultanate of Oman, received at the Al-Murtafi'ah Camp today commanders of the Saudi royal and the Bahraini amiri navy ships, which are currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting was attended by Staff Colonel Khamis ibn Muhammad al-'Amri, director of the GCC affairs at the Omani Defense Ministry.

A number of the Saudi royal and Bahraini amiri navy ships have arrived at the Qabus port today to hold joint exercises with the navy of the Sultan of Oman, as part of the program of the naval exercises being held as part of the joint coordination and cooperation among the armed forces of the GCC countries to raise the combat efficiency of various weapons.

PDRY

Al-'Attas, USSR Envoy Discuss Support, Projects

GF151544 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Yesterday Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office Comrade Vladislav Zhukov, USSR ambassador in Aden. During the meeting which was attended by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, they reviewed the relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries and the prospects for their development, and a number of issues of mutual interest.

Brother al-'Attas expressed great appreciation for the internationalistic support the USSR has extended and continues to extend to our country, which has effectively contributed to the PDRY's development and the building of a new life for our people. He also praised the comradely efforts of the Soviet experts who contribute alongside the PDRY comrades toward implementing numerous vital and important projects and who offer their expertise in various fields.

The Soviet ambassador affirmed that the USSR, through its principled and constant stands, will continue to be a support for our people's struggle to strengthen the standing of their revolutionary experiment under YSP leadership.

Parliamentary Official Notes Reserve on Gulf War

GF151454 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Ahmad al-Sallami, secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, chairman of the PDRY parliamentary branch, returned to Aden last night from Amman after chairing the PDRY's delegation to the 17th session and fourth conference of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] which met 10-13 March.

On the Iran-Iraq war, which was a controversial issue, Brother al-Sallami remarked that the PDRY, Algerian, Syrian, and Lebanese parliamentary branches expressed reservations concerning a draft resolution [by the APU] on the issue, basing themselves on the fact that a resolution does not help to achieve a peaceful solution and does not create a calm, peaceful climate for mediation committees which seek to drive the two parties toward a dialogue, resolve disagreements, and end the war.

QATAR

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives for 1-Day Visit

GF150632 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 14 Mar (WAKH) — Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Doha from Manama tonight on a 1-day visit to Qatar within his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

He was received at the airport by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Conveys Message to Amir

GF151123 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in fraternal PDRY.

The message was conveyed by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of foreign affairs, during a meeting in the amir's office at Al-Dawhah Palace at 1030 today.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the members of the delegation accompanying the honorable guest.

QNA has learned that the message deals with the recent developments in the PDRY and bilateral relations in general. It also affirms continued relations of fraternity and good neighborliness between Aden and the region's countries.

British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Visits

Received by Amir

GF151125 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received in his office at the Al-Dawhah Palace at 1030 today Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Julian Walker, British ambassador in Doha.

QNA has learned that during the meeting, the situation in the region was generally reviewed and the latest developments in the Middle East situation, as well as good relations between Qatar and the United Kingdom and the means to consolidate and expand them in various fields were discussed.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Bahrain Heir Apparent 14 March

LD142328 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Bahraini Heir Apparent and Acting Prime Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al-Khalifah this evening. The audience was attended by Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Riyadh District governor. Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al-Khalifah and the accompanying delegation had dinner [words indistinct].

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Begins Visit 14 Mar

GF151227 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Riyadh today from Jeddah on a visit to the Kingdom. He was received at the airport by 'Ali Hasan al-Sha'ir, minister of information; Radiq al-Natshah, PLO representative in the Kingdom; and a number of officials.

'Arafat arrived in Jeddah last night.

Received by King Fahd

GF151430 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Mar (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat this afternoon. The audience was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Riyadh District governor; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; 'Ali al-Sha'ir, minister of information; Rafiq al-Natshah, PLO representative in the Kingdom; and Hani al-Hasan, political advisor to Yasir 'Arafat and member of the Fatah Central Committee.

Yasir 'Arafat and the attendants had dinner with his Majesty the king.

Departs Riyadh 16 March

GF161220 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Riyadh today following a visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off upon his departure by Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir and a number of officials.

28.5 Million Dollars Issued to PLO

NC162056 Paris AFP in English 2043 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, March 16 (AFP) — Saudi Arabia on Sunday gave the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) a $28.5 million check, one fourth of the $114 million it has earmarked for PLO this year, the organisation said here.

The check was handed over to the PLO representative here, Rafiq al-Natchah, shortly after the visit of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, who met with King Fahd, the PLO said. Saudi Arabia has contributed 114 million dollars per year since the 1979 Arab summit in Baghdad agreed that oil producing Arab countries should help the PLO financially, Palestinian sources here said.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives in Riyadh With Message

GF151820 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived in Riyadh this evening carrying a message to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the PDRY.

He was received at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, chairman of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry; and a number of officials.

Received by Counterpart

GF161044 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] This morning Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali who is currently visiting the Kingdom. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; Ambassador Isma'il al-Shuri, director of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry; Minister Plenipotentiary Hasan Mustafa 'Attar, director of the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf Department at the Foreign Ministry; Muwaffaq al-Dulayfan, Saudi ambassador in Aden; and Muhammad (ibn Fadl), PDRY ambassador to the Kingdom.

Crown Prince Receives Sudanese TMC Member

GF151218 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, received in his office at the royal court today, General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil, member of the Transitional Military Council [TMC] and chief of staff in Sudan, who delivered to his highness a written message for His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from his brother His Excellency General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC in Sudan.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and Cabinet member; 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, adviser at the crown prince's office; and 'Isa Mustaka Salamah, the Sudanese ambassador to the Kingdom.

Pakistan's Junejo Arrives on Pilgrimmage

LD170027 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 16 Mar (SPA) — This evening the prime minister of Pakistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo, arrived in Jeddah to perform al-'Umrah and visit the prophet's mosque.

Daily Expects Jordanian-PLO Summit Before April

GF150858 Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Jeddah, 15 Mar (QNA) — Saudi press reports today speculate that a meeting between King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be held before April.

Quoting sources closely related to the Jordanian decisionmakers, the Saudi newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* affirms that a meeting between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaders is possible at any time and that King Husayn will make a 1-day visit to Cairo this week to meet with [Egyptian President] Husni Mubarak and hold talks which these sources described as very important. The sources note that it is not ruled out that the Jordanian-Egyptian summit will result in resuming the dialogue between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaders.

UAE

British Foreign Office Minister Arrives 15 Mar

GF160820 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 15 Mar (WAKH) — Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Abu Dhabi today from Qatar within his current tour of the region.

Received by President

GF161150 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, at Al-Bahr Palace today.

During the meeting they reviewed the situation in the region, the latest developments of the Iraq-Iran war, and the situation in the Middle East, in addition to bilateral relations and joint cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid; Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry; Khamis al-Rumaythi, director of the President's Office; and Harold Walker, British ambassador to the UAE.

Received by Deputy Prime Minister

GF161902 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] This evening Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad received Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, who is currently on a visit to the country, and the delegation accompanying him. Present was Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Bilateral relations and means of strengthening and developing them were discussed during the meeting. The two sides also exchanged views on the developments in the Gulf region in light of the recent escalation of the Iraq-Iran war and on efforts being made to put an end to this war.

Received by Minister of State

GF161411 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Mar (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, met here this afternoon with Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs.

A responsible source at the UAE Foreign Ministry stated that the two sides reviewed developments in the Gulf region in light of the recent developments of the Iraq-Iran war and expressed their deep concern over the recent escalation of the war.

In a statement carried by WAM this afternoon, the source said the situation in the Middle East and the developments of the Palestinian issue were discussed.

WAM stated that the British minister talked about his country's effort within the framework of the EEC to establish peace in the Middle East region. The two sides also reviewed the international oil market situation and expressed their determination to work for achieving stability in the oil market.

Bilateral relations in the economic and trade fields were also discussed.

British Officil on Aid to Kuwait

GF161058 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 16 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] — Kuwait has been assured that should it request any military equipment or other assistance in connection with the Iran-Iraq war it will be met readily and quickly by Britain.

So far Kuwait has made no such request but "they know that they have an old friend in Britain" said Tim Renton, British minister of state in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

He said Britain deplored the recent escalation of the war and had made it known that any extension of the conflict to the neighbouring countries would be viewed with great concern. Britain feels that the immediate need is to get Iran to the negotiating table and put an end to "this dreadful, wasteful war".

Pressed to answer if Britain was prepared to send in troops to any of the countries threatened by the extension of the war, Mr Renton said: "We have very friendly relations with Kuwait as we do with others in the region. Should there be a specific request for military equipment...or...assistance...we would view it quickly and sympathetically".

AL-BAYAN Interviews PDRY Foreign Minister

GF151618 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 14 Mar 86 p 14

[Interview with PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, by *AL-BAYAN* correspondent Taj al-Din 'Abd al-Haq, in Abu Dhabi — date not given]

[Excerpts][Taj al-Din 'Abd al-Haq] It has been said that there is a certain coolness in PDRY relations with both Syria and Libya because they received former Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Has this actually happened? What are your current relations with the two countries?

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali] In fact we have found from the brothers in Syria, under the leadership of Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, and also the brothers in Libya, under the leadership of Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, a desire to maintain fraternal relations between us. The continuation of these relations has been confirmed.

We have received reassurances that neither of the fraternal countries wishes to intervene in the PDRY's internal affairs. This proves that there has been no change in the policy of Syria or the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah toward our country.

['Abd al-Haq] Some people say that the recent events in Aden have proven that tribes in the PDRY still play a role in the PDRY's political life, despite committed party life which has existed for several years. Do you agree with this conclusion? What is the true role of the tribes in the makeup of the PDRY political system?

[Al-Dali] Such talk is untrue and absolutely unscientific. If what has been said is true, the civil war would be going on until this very moment, and the fighting which broke out after the coupist attempt on 13 January would have continued. These events were decided in very few days. This is proof that the YSP was able to stop the bloodshed quickly and restore life to normal. After the first 9 days there was no fighting. Hence I do not believe that there is any scientific or objective foundation for the claim that tribal relations still control the PDRY system. Such relations ended when colonialism ended. Colonialism used to encourage tribal relations. However, after the triumph of the revolution, these tribes were merged into one system on an equal footing. The segments of the people were unified in one cauldron, which left no room for a return to the kind of relations which prevailed prior to independence.

['Abd al-Haq] What is the PDRY's present attitude toward the PLO?

[Al-Dali] The PDRY's principled stand toward the Palestinian revolution is well-known. It is not subject to alteration. We support the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland, self-determination, and to establish an independent state. Hence, we are extremely eager to maintain the unity of the instrument of Palestinian struggle, the PLO, since without this instrument's unity, it is difficult to talk of returning to the homeland, self-determination, and establishing an independent state. Hence the basic issue that confronts our Palestinian people and the Palestinian resistance factions is the issue of unity on a foundation of opposition to imperialism and Zionism.

YAR

President Receives Soviet Leaders' Message

GF151824 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Today Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received a message from the Soviet leadership on bilateral relations and on current Arab and international issues.

The brother president expressed his great satisfaction with the contents of the Soviet leaders' message. The message was delivered to him by USSR Ambassador in Sanaa Anatoliy Ivanovich Filev during a meeting with the brother president in his office at the presidential palace.

The meeting was attended by Brother Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, minister of development, and chief of the Central Planning Organ.

PRC President Li Xiannian Begins Official Visit

Arrives in Alexandria

NC141354 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Alexandria, 14 Mar (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian arrived at Janaklis airport in Alexandria at 1445 today accompanied by his wife and a high-level delegation. He was met at the airport by Labib Zamzam, governor of Al-Buhayrah, and other high-ranking officials in the governorate. The Chinese president will stay in Alexandria for 3 days on a private visit. He will begin an official visit to Egypt on Monday.

Receives Key to Alexandria

NC141942 Cairo MENA in English 1928 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Alexandria, Egypt, March 14 (MENA) — Alexandria Governor Muhammad Fawzi Mu'adh presented visiting Chinese President Li Xiannian with the city key on the occasion of his cordial visit to the governorate. The Chinese president offered the Alexandria governor a Chinese porcelain statue.

Arrives in Cairo

NC171106 Cairo MENA in English 0920 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 17 (MENA) — Chinese President Li Xiannian arrived here today from Alexandria on the beginning of an official three-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of President Husni Mubarak. President Husni Mubarak and Mrs Mubarak welcomed the Chinese president and his wife at the airport.

The two presidents then headed for Al-Qubbah Palace where the Chinese guest received a red carpet reception. President Li Xiannian will be accompanied during his official visit to Egypt by a mission of honour led by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali.

Makes Arrival Statement

NC171125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0958 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — In an arrival statement at Cairo Airport, PRC President Li Xiannian experssed his great happiness at visiting the Arab Republic of Egypt. He greeted President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian Government and people in the name of China's leaders and government.

The Chinese president indicated that he was looking forward to exchanging views with President Mubarak on bilateral relations and international issues of common concern. He voiced his hope that this trip would result in the further strengthening of the friendly and comprehensive relations of cooperation linking Egypt and China.

The PRC president highlighted Egyptian-Chinese relations over the centuries. He said that in the last 30 years, diplomatic relations between the two countries have been based on the principles of peaceful coexistence. Bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation have developed continuously thanks to the careful paronage of leaders in both countries, and the combined efforts of the two governments and peoples.

The Chinese president made it clear that the promotion of friendly relations and amicable cooperation in numerous fields is fully compatible with the interests and wishes of both peoples. In addition, it helps preserve world peace and promotes joint development.

Received by Mubarak

NC171329 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak received PRC President Li Xiannian at Cairo International Airport this morning. The PRC president began his 4-day official visit to Egypt today. President Husni Mubarak and PRC President Li Xiannian met privately after the welcoming ceremonies.

Mubarak Receives Pakistani Justice Minister

NC160927 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Pakistani Justice Minister Iqbal Ahmad Khan at the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhammad al-Ahmadi Abu al-Nur, minister of awqaf, and Raja Mohammad Zafr al-Haq, Pakistani ambassador in Cairo. The Pakistani minister arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 4-day visit. He brings a message from Pakistani President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq to President Mubarak.

Mubarak Receives Zia Message

NC160937 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Following his meeting with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today, Pakistani Justice Minister Iqbal Ahmad Khan said that he had conveyed to his excellency a message from President Ziaul Haq. The message conveys greetings and best wishes from the government and people of Pakistan to his excellency and to the Egyptian people.

The Pakistani minister said that he discussed issues of mutual concern with President Mubarak and that his excellency had explained the situation in the wake of the recent events. We thank God, the Pakistani minister said, that Egypt, with its steadfast people, managed to bring the situation under control.

Concluding, the Pakistani minister emphasized the feelings of goodwill and respect binding the Egyptian and Pakistani people. He indicated that he would take President Mubarak's greetings to President Ziaul Haq and to the Pakistani people.

Mubarak, Ministers Review Economic Situation

NC161422 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held an expanded Cabinet meeting at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ali Lutfi, prime minister; Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Kamal Ahmad al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation; and Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security.

Also attending were Dr Salah Hamid, finance minister; Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade; Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister for cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Dr Naji Shatlah, minister of supply and internal trade; Engineer Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, industry minister; 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, petroleum minister; Fu'ad Sultan, minister of tourism and civil aviation; Dr Fathi Muhammad 'Ali, minister of higher education and scientific research; Major General Zaki Badr, interior minister; 'Ali Nijm, governor of the Central Bank; and Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Afterward, Dr 'Ali Lutfi declared that the purpose of the meeting had been to review the economic situation, and to discuss the draft general state budget and annual plan for the 1986-87 financial year. The conferees also discussed a number of economic measures to confront the effects of falling oil prices.

Dr Lutfi said that it had been agreed that no government measure would affect people in the low-income brackets. Production incentives and tax and customs exemptions would also be unaffected, he added.

The prime minister said that the main topic had been the rationalization of public expenditure and the increase of real government revenues. He reported that another meeting will be held at the end of the week with his excellency the president to continue these discussions.

Responding to a question, the prime minister said that economic resolutions would definitely be taken at the second meeting.

The prime minister added: We have not yet drawn up the resolutions in their final form because the president requested that certain subjects be more fully examined. It was agreed that all resolutions would be announced following the second meeting.

The prime minister indicated that some of these measures would also be discussed at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting, but that the meeting's main purpose will be to review the modified programs prepared by their excellencies, the ministers, following the president's recent address to the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, in light of his directives to the government.

Asked about Resolution 121, the prime minister said: Resolution 121, which has replaced Resolution 119, seems to have been misinterpreted. The resolution does not mean opening the door to imports, but rather that the prices of imported goods will be revised, because Egypt is at the stage where it should rationalize imports, he emphasized.

Commentary on Economy

NC170619 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "We Must Face the Economic Crisis With Courage"]

[Text] Oil experts expect the price of barrel of oil to drop to eight dollars. This is the catastrophe threatening the major oil countries and affecting their trade with other nations. The Gulf states have started to reduce their national budgets in line with the reduction in their oil income. It is a bitter fact that the drop in the price of oil has begun to directly and indirectly affect Egypt's income.

First, the sale of Egypt's oil has fallen sharply. Experts estimate the corresponding loss in income at more than one billion dollars in the coming year. Second, the revenue from the Suez Canal will be reduced as the result of the reduction in the production and export of oil from the Gulf. This means that one of the major sources of income in Egypt will drop noticeably, thus depriving the state of an important source of foreign currency. Third, the remittances of Egyptians abroad, the majority of whom are working in the Arab oil countries, will also fall sharply, as a result of the dismissal of foreign workers in those countries and of the increase in the their cost of living. Fourth, a number of Egyptians working abroad will return to Egypt, further burdening the state budget, with salaries, services, providing of jobs, and so forth. Fifth, the national income from Arabs visiting Egypt throughout the year will decrease because these Arab visitors will not be spending as much as they did when the price of barrel of oil reached 40 dollars.

All this means that the so-called oil era has begun to recede, creating drastic changes in the standard of living to which many have become accustomed and which become a unique feature for a certain period. One aspect of this period was that the price of consumer goods rose sharply and Egypt was affected because of the number of Egyptian workers in other countries.

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has commented on this in an important speech he delivered to the FLN Congress. He said that the time has come for every citizen to change his way of life completely, in line with the plummeting oil prices, so that all can escape catastrophe, before it is too late.

Everyone knows some aspects of the severe effects of the drop in oil prices. Duty dictates that we radically review the means of our subsistence. A public austerity plan, to which the state is committed and which it will implement scrupulously, is the first serious step to control the situation and to stand fast. We do not believe that any Egyptian objects to accepting such a plan, no matter how severe, as long as it is in the higher interest of the country and is applied to every individual.

There is no cure for our economic crisis except surgery. We have gone beyond the stage of needing tranquilizers and our choice now is life or death.

Mubarak on Democratic Process, Recent Rioting
NC161959 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stressed firmly that not for a single moment did he consider acting against or limiting democracy. He said that the means to make corrections lies within democracy, noting that his regard for this form of government increases daily. The president added: Under democracy, issues are dealt with decisively and wisely, not rashly. We always must believe that we mean what we say. He pointed out that he warns the people whenever there is a deviation from democracy, and then takes the appropriate measures to protect it and preserve its course.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif stated that President Mubarak made these remarks during today's large mass rally, organized by the NDP Youth Secretariat in the Pyramids area. The minister said that President Mubarak stressed that he was anxious to avoid using any extraordinary measures during the recent regrettable incidents, explaining that he does not make use of the authority given to him, except to protect the people and their interests and to preserve the security of the homeland and the citizens.

President Husni Mubarak stated that Egypt is always ready and determined to confront any situation and that Egyptians have the strength and the determination to continue on their course until the people's march is completed and they win their fight for a better future and for their rightful position.

Referring to those who are frightened by democracy and freedom and worried by Egypt's development and strength, President Mubarak said: Because the Egyptian people are capable of learning, remedying their errors, and understanding what is right, they have chosen the correct, but more difficult, road. President Mubarak stressed that only what is right is acceptable and compatible with the Egyptian people's demands, interests, and priorities.

President Mubarak discussed the actions by some of Egypt's sons during the recent unfortunate events. He said: We must do some soul searching. We must not adopt a hostile attitude toward any of Egypt's sons, regardless of their errors. The president stressed that Egyptians must realize that their responsibility toward everyone who has erred is to enlighten, educate, and make them part of a productive force.

Speaking on the difficult economic conditions facing Egypt, President Mubarak said that the state is exerting its utmost efforts and working on every level and through all available means to provide the best conditions for the Egyptian citizens to earn their livelihood, despite circumstances. He pointed out that measures are being taken to confront the economic situation and the drop in the income from oil, tourism, and remittances from Egyptians abroad, noting that these measures will not affect the ordinary citizen or those with limited incomes, but only those who can bear the burden.

President Mubarak noted that all the facts will be put before the people, pointing to his earlier postponement of debate on the recent events until the conclusion of all investigations, which will be fully detailed immediately after the public prosecution concludes its investigations. The president stressed that it is not in the public interest to seek revenge for or to exploit the recent events to distort the complete picture. He added that while a small group of Egypt's sons had erred, the majority continue to work for the sake of the people and to protect their security and safety. President Mubarak went on to say that the time has come for the youth to work harder, stressing that Egypt can rebuild its civilization with the help of its sons' strength and intelligence, which contributed to the Arab nation's development.

President Mubarak said that every decision must be accurate and must take into consideration the interests of the entire people. He pointed out that the regime will not exploit any means to achieve personal or superficial gain. He called for wise and logical action, without distortion, emotionalism, fanaticism, or one-upmanship.

Earlier today, President Mubarak toured the Pyramids area and inspected the efforts to remove the effects of sabotage that resulted from the recent disturbances. He was accompanied by Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, a number of ministers, and executive and various leaders of the Al-Jizah Governorate and the NDP.

Automatic Weapons Fire Heard in Cairo Suburb
NC170746 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 17 (AFP) — Heavy automatic weapon fire was heard early Monday in the southern Cairo suburb of Al-Ma'adi, the stage of violent rioting last month by police conscripts, witnesses said. The origin of the gunfire was not immediately clear.

Two helicopters flew over the neighborhood, which houses the Israeli ambassador's residence and one of the largest Egyptian prisons, where some 100 prisoners were set free in the February 25 and 26 rioting, according to official reports.

AFP Gunfire Report Clarified
JN170938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (INA) A responsible Egyptian security source has denied the occurrence of any incidents in the Cairo suburb of Al-Ma'adi this morning. He told an INA correspondent in Cairo today that the gunshots heard early this morning were fired by some military units that were carrying out scheduled routine exercises in a camp near that area. The Egyptian security source described the AFP report on the incident as mere speculation and not at all based on truth.

Shots Fired in Jailbreak Attempt

NC171100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — An informed source in the Interior Ministry has announced that two political prisoners launched an abortive escape attempt from Turah prison at dawn today. The two inmates ae Nabil al-Maghrabi, who is serving a 25-year sentence, and Mahmud Muhammad Isma'il, who was given 5 years in jail.

The source explained the circumstances surrounding the incident. He noted that the two men were held in a cell on the prison's third floor. They managed to drill a hole through the wall overlooking the roofs of the prison mosque and kitchen, which are level with the first floor. They then tied some blankets together and slid down onto the roof of the mosuqe. They were spotted by prison guards, who sounded the alarm and fired warning shots into the air. The inmates rushed to the kitchen roof and entered the building through an air shaft. The guards managed to surround and arrest them in the kitchen.

The source pointed out there were no casualties among either guards or convicts, and that the latter were unarmed. These two prisoners were involved in the widely publicized Al-Jihad case.

Abu Ghazalah To Command Youth Battalions

NC151020 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has issued a decision by which a committee will be formed to study the best way to organize youths into battalions for reconstruction and for the great awakening. The battalions will be under the command of Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

Army Units Continue Return to Camps; Citizens Advised

NC151636 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The Ministry of Defense has requested that citizens in Cairo use alternative roads from 2300 today to 1300 tomorrow in order to accomodate the return of some military units to their camps. The military will use the following roads: Kubri 'Abbas-al-Jizah Square road; King Faysal Road; the Al-Fayyum Road as far as the 30 km marker; the Al-Maraziq bridge road; and the road from Munsha'at Dahshur to Dahshur.

Results of Riots Inquiry 'Early Next Week'

NC161141 Cairo MENA in English 1055 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 16 (MENA) — Public Prosecutor Counsellor Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jundi is to announce early next week the outcome of investigations carried out into the recent rioting events involving a number of forces from the Central Security Force together with some civilians.

The prosecution has already completed the main elements of the investigations that covered inquiries with most of those arrested for having taken part in the riots and with former Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Rushdi, Al-Jizah Governor Dr. 'Abd al-Hamid Hasan, directors of security in the Governorates of Cairo, Al-Jizah and Al-Qalyubiyah, a number of senior officials at the Ministry of Interior, the Central Security Force leaderships and officers of camps that were scenes of the end of February riots.

The public prosecution, MENA learnt, will complete this week the final elements of investigations including reports on autopsy for those killed and injured in the events and on examination of weapons used by the culprits as well as an assessment of damages incurred by the riots.

Meanwhile, a number of those arrested during the riots were released after being acquitted by the public prosecution.

Petroleum Minister Leaves for Geneva Conference

NC170828 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] 'Abd al-Hadi Muhammad Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, left Cairo for Geneva today to attend the expanded ministerial conference of oil-producing countries. The session, which will include representatives of OPEC members and non-members, will be held on Wednesday. Its purpose is to discuss ways of stabilizing the world oil market.

Dissidents Expelled From France Return to Families

NC151502 Paris AFP in English 1444 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, March 15 (AFP) — Fawzi Hamzah al-Rubay and Muhammad Hassan Khayr al-Din, the two Iraqi dissidents expelled from France on February 19 and whose fates were apparently linked to that of French hostages in Lebanon, met here Saturday with French newsmen before returning to their families. Both appeared in good health.

They were pardoned Wednesday by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn after he was visited by a special French presidential envoy urging the release of the two men, which was a condition set by Moslem Shi'ite extremists for freeing French hostages they hold in Beirut.

The deportation from France of the two pro-Iranian Iraqis is believed to have resulted in the execution of Michel Seurat, one of eight Frenchmen being held in Lebanon by Shi'ite Moslem extremists.

Mr Khayr al-Din, before joining his family in the holy Shi'ite city of Karbala', said he wanted to continue his philosophy studies in Paris.

Mr Al-Rubay, as he left for Diyala, 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of here, said he had not decided whether he would return to France.

President Addresses Popular Army Fighters

JN161644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1624 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has said: Al-Faw will be a big grave for the Iranians and we will only cover this grave after it has swallowed them up or after they have been expelled and Iraqi territory remains sacred.

Speaking during an inspection tour of a training camp for Popular Army Fighters, the president added: The Iranian invaders will be defeated in Al-Faw just as they were defeated in the northern sector, Umm al-Rasas, and the III Army Corps sector.

The president said: The most important thing about this battle is that it is the battle of the citizen's faith in his homeland, kinfolk, aims, people, and cause. You have a just cause. You are defending Iraq.

Defense Minister Inspects East Tigris Sector

JN151646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, has inspected the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. He held a meeting that was attended by the commander of the VI Army Corps, the commander of the helicopter gunship force, the field commanders, and high-ranking officers in the abovementioned sector. The means to confront the Iranian enemy were discussed during this meeting.

The defense minister was reassured about the defensive arrangements and necessary preparations to confront any folly the spiteful Iranian enemy might commit. He toured the forward positions, giving his directives vis-a-vis the fortification of the forward positions and the consolidation of the advance positions opposite the assembly posts of the enemy troops and units.

The East Tigris forces commander had earlier explained to the defense minister in detail the units' full preparedness to crush any foolish attempt against the positions of the Army Corps, where our fighters are fully vigilant and alert, protecting the borders against the expansionist invaders.

Attacks on Iranian Villages Near Ahvaz Denied

JN161604 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) — Iraq strongly denied Iranian claims as announced over Tehran radio today that the villages of Damgheh-e Bozorg and Khosravi near Ahvaz were attacked by Iraqi planes this morning. In a statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman described these Iranian claims as baseless and intended to cover up Iran's military losses as a result of the painful strike it sustained today.

It will be recalled that some 56 Iraqi fighter planes this morning swooped down on an Iranian camp near Ahvaz consisting of 500 tanks, armored cars, missile batteries, and a large number of enemy pesonnel and destroyed them completely.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Final Stage 'Imminent'

JN160832 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT 16 Mar 86

[By Salah Mahdi al-'Askari]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 16 Mar (INA) — War activities on the Al-Faw front show that the Iraqi reinforcements, the operations to consolidate Iraqi positions, and coordination among the Iraqi formations have reached their apex. The current arrangements, measures, and combat activities show that the next battle is imminent and will be very violent and disasterous for the invading Iranian forces.

The final stage is imminent. The siege around the Iranian forces is tightening and the Al-Faw and Mamalih areas are littered with the bodies of the Iranians and their destroyed weaponry as a result of the extensive, coordinated firepower of the Iraqi formations. In the northern sector, the three columns which liberated the peaks and slopes of the mountains in the Chuwartah area last Thursday are now consoldating their newly-liberated positions after the situation was decided in our forces favor in a 2-day battle.

The Iraqi forces in this sector continue to evacuate the wounded and captured Iranians who had been hiding in adjacent valleys.

They are also collecting the weapons, hardware and vehicles they have captured, including rocket launchers, missiles, light and heavy mortars, a number of bulldozers and excavators, a great number of vehicles and ambulances, and a large quantity of arms.

Jets Attack Iranian Position

JN171113 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GTM 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — Squadrons of Iraqi fighter planes launched a raid on a concentration of Iranian forces' vehicles detected in an area south of Ahvaz this morning. A military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi planes destroyed the enemy concentration at 0940 [0640 GMT] today. This concentration, he added, contained 183 vehicles of various types and 18 shelters for Iranian forces' vehicles and weapons, all of which were turned into smoldering fragments. Our planes returned safely to base.

'Large Maritime Target' Attacked

JN170922 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0917 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at dawn today. In a statement to INA, a military spokesman said that the Iraqi planes hit the maritime target accurately and effectively at 0445 [0145 GMT] today before they returned safely to base.

Second 'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN171525 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1513 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With God's help and the efforts of the brave eagles, a large maritime target was destroyed off the Iranian coast at 1615 [1315 GMT] today. This is the second target which has received destructive blows from our heroic Air Force.

After carrying out their duty, our courageous eagles returned to base, safe and triumphant. God be praised.

[Dated] 17 March 1986

Cypriot Oil Tanker Reportedly Hit

JN171457 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1434 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] London, 17 Mar (INA) — The British Lloyds Insurance Company has confirmed that a Cypriot oil tanker *(Ajifmint)* was hit by an Iraqi missile near the Iranian coast today. In a statement, Lloyds said that the 118,456-ton tanker belongs to the Cypriot (Trodus) Company.

Communique No 2,149

JN141745 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,149 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces are continuing their combat activities along our proud borders, defending the homeland and the dignity of man and proceeding to realize our noble aims. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In the VII Army Corps front, our triumphant columns have continued to rain fire on the defeated enemy units. In an attempt to advance toward our forces in the Al-Rashid column, the enemy dispatch limited groups of its personnel. Our fighters opened fire, destroying them and wiping out most of the enemy personnel. The remaining few fled, pursued by our firepower.

2. Our heroic Air Force has continued to pour destructive explosives on the heads of the aggressors, lending support to our land forces, which are waging the battle to purge the land and defend our honor. The brave eagles of the air liquidated whole groups of enemy personnel in the I Army Corps northern sector as well as on the Shatt al-'Arab front. They also destroyed huge quantities of enemy weaponry and equipment. Our eagles today carried out 200 combat missions during which our men shot down an enemy F-4 plane in the southern sector at 0752 [0452 GMT] today. After carrying out their missions, our eagles returned to the homeland with their planes, protected by God. God bless our eagles.

3. Our Army helicopter gunships are playing an extremely important role in backing up our units and strengthening their drive against the enemy. Our brave helicopter pilots played a distinguished role in inflicting massive losses on the enemy in men, weaponry, equipment, and hardware in the I and VII Army Corps sectors. They flew 175 combat missions today after which they returned safe and jubilant over their victory.

4. Our brave units have continued to strike enemy positions opposite them, killing one enemy soldier, destroying two infantry positions and killing those manning them, and burning three vehicles and one observation post in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah.

5. The forces of the tyrant clique shelled the Mandali suburbs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 March 1986

Communique No 2,150

JN141919 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1828 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Unscheduled Communique No 2,150 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 March 1986]

[Excerpt] Our brave Armed Forces in the I Army Corps northern sector, represented by the Al-Faris Forces and with the active participation of the brave fighters of our Kurdish people, launched a thundering new attack on the enemy forces on our international borders. With the strong, splendid backing of our Air Force, Army helicopters, heroic armor, and capable artillery, our brave forces were able to purge our land in the Chuwartah area from the last barbarian foot completely and in a final manner. The land was restored to its good owners. Death has overwhelmed the enemy forces. Since the beginning of the recent battles, more than nine enemy brigades have been completely destroyed.

The operation was planned, led, and implemented by great heroic men who bring the good news of vicotry to their great people and their heroic leader Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him. They were led by Staff Lieutenant General Nizar 'Abd al-Karim al-Khazraji of the special forces. The first column was led by Staff Brigadier General Natiq Satir Ramiz assisted by Lieutenant Colonel Zaki Khattab al-Fad'am of the special forces. The second column was led by Brigadier General 'Ali Husayn Maz'ali of the special forces. The third column was led by Staff Lieutenant Colonel Mukhlid Jamil Majid. The artillery operations were supervised by Major General 'Amir Sidi Husayn and the light regiments were led by fighters Latif Ahmad al-Jabali, Husyan Khawr al-Sawraji, Jawhar Muhyi al-Harki, and 'Umar Khadr al-Sawraji.

This is Iraq and this is Iraq's response to anyone who thinks of desecrating Iraqi soil or violating its sovereignty. Rest assured, O Iraqis, because we will double the enemy's losses in the future, and the disaster which will befall them on the Shatt al-'Arab front will be more terrible. Their end will be at the hands of your good sons. The Shatt al-'Arab will be ours. The land and the victory will be ours. We conclude by saying: God be praised for his support.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 March 1986

Communique No 2,151

JN151732 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,151 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's triumphant forces are continuing their glorious defense of the homeland, dealing painful blows to the aggressors and demonstrating their overwhelming superiority and unparalleled ability to attain their noble objectives.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our victorious columns on the Shatt al-'Arab front continued to fortify their positions and pound the aggressor forces, inflicting massive losses in personnel, weapons, and equipment.

2. The bold helicopter gunships carried out 38 combat missions during which they destroyed enemy weaponry, equipment, and personnel groups. The hero cavaliers of the helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praised be God.

3. The brave men of the sea, who have contributed a great deal to the battle of pride, honor, and dignity against the heretic enemies, are confirming their superiority and high efficiency to destroy all enemy attempts to achieve its evil purposes. At 2300 [2000 GMT] yesterday our naval units directed an accurate strike at an important bridge recently built by the enemy in the Ra's Abadan area, destroying it completely. After carrying out this heroic duty, the brave lions of our Navy returned safely and triumphantly to base. Praised be God, the best supporter.

4. Our hero fighters in the I Army Corps northern sector continued their combat activities, dealing destructive blows to the rogues of charlatan Khomeyni and to the positions opposite them. They seized several pieces of weaponry and large quantities of serviceable ammunition and equipment which the enemy left behind in recent battles. They also killed five enemy troopers and destroyed one 120-mm mortar —killing its crewmen —one tubular launcher, one gun, two excavators, one ammunition dump, one machinegun, and three infantry positions.

Our fighters in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah killed three enemy troopers and destroyed one vehicle, one ammunition dump, two infantry positions, and one machinegun emplacement. One enemy trooper was also killed and two ammunition dumps and one observation post were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. The forces of the clique of charlatanism shelled Khurmal and Darband-e Khan with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 March 1986

Communique No 2,152

JN161828 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,152 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The followng is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: The defeated enemy tried to attack our forward positions of the Al-Rashid column at 1315 [1015 GMT] yesterday with the force of one regiment. Fire suddenly poured on the enemy forces from all sides. With strong support from the artillery, the attacking force was destroyed and its few remnants were forced to retreat. At 1520 [1220 GMT], another enemy regiment tried to attack our forward units in the same column. The attacking force was mutilated and its remnants were forced to flee.

At 1600 [1300 GMT], an enemy company tried to approach one of our forward positions. The enemy company was immediately annihilated. At 1700 [1400 GMT], several enemy units tried to approach our forward positions. They were destroyed and the remaining elements were forced to flee. Thus, facts establish that the defeated enemy cannot raise his head. The moment his flocks leave their hideouts they are immediately mutilated by the strong fire of our brave fighters. Enemy losses in these attempts, which demostrated their total collapse, reached hundreds of dead and wounded. God bless the strong men of the brave Al-Rashid column.

2. O Iraqis, your sons' generosity is limitless, their bravery is unmatched, and their determination is solid. Furthermore, their strikes at the enemy are becoming more powerful and effective every day. As confirmed by all events, the enemies are being crushed these days under Iraqi hammers. They are licking their wounds and are shocked by the tragedy which is of their own making. These enemies have nothing with which to hide their scandal. The Iraqi victory is as clear as daylight and the Iranian defeat is clear to everyone. The enemies cannot even conceal their losses.

Our brave eagles, the pride of Iraq, the treasure of the Arabs, and the elite of youth, are our men for every occasion. They hold the key to the solution of every problem. They are striking on land, at sea, and in the air. They strike like thunderbolts wherever the enemy is, whether in the battlefield or hiding deep inside his own territory. Enemy positions, strongholds, camps, and hideouts could not check fire and death. Iraqi eagles swoop upon them and mutilate them wherever they may be.

Our heroic Air Force spotted an enemy camp near Ahvaz containing 500 tanks, armored cars, missile batteries, and a large number of enemy soldiers. At 0940 [0640] today, 56 planes from our gigantic Air Force swooped down at once on the enemy tanks, armored cars, missiles, and troop concentrations and destroyed them completely. Air photos showed that nothing was left undamaged. It was like a gift from heaven for the Iraqi eagles to have such a feast. Having carried out their mission, our eagles returned with their planes safely and triumphantly in God's care. These are the soldiers of leader Saddam Husayn, God preserve him, and the men of Iraq. Are there any better men? Glory to our Air Force — command, eagles, officers, and men. God be praised for His victory. Defeat to the enemy.

3. Our Air Force inflicted heavy losses on the criminal enemy today. Our brave eagles dropped tons of bombs on enemy positions and troop concentrations. Columns of smoke could be seen by the naked eye billowing from enemy positions littered with destroyed military hardware. Our Air Force today carried out 222 combat missions after which our brave eagles returned to the homeland safely.

4. While our planes were on patrol over the Arab Gulf this afternoon they spooted an Iran F-4 and shot it down at 1555 [1255 GMT]. The enemy plane fell in flames into the sea. Our planes returned to their bases, safely, God be praised.

5. In pursuance of our policy to completely destroy the criminal enemy and render him hopeless, the heroes of our helicopter gunships continued their powerful activities. They carried out 83 combat missions during which they inflicted on the enemy heavy losses in personnel and material. Afterward, the heroes returned to their bases with their aircraft safely, God be praised.

6. Our brave fighters in the I Army Corps northern sector seized the following weapons and equipment which the enemy left humbled in the battlefield:

a. tubular rocket launcher; b. 100-mm mortar; c. 180-mm mortar; d. two SBG-9 guns; e. one mortar and RPG-7 launcher; f. one excavator; g. one jeep and (Savana) vehicle; h. seven wireless sets; i. large quantities of usable ammunition and equipment. Two enemy soldiers were killed and three weapons were seized in another part of the same sector.

7. The criminal enemy shelled Darband-e Khan with long-range artillery.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 16 March 1986

UN Under Secretary Goulding Arrives for Visit

Received by King Husayn

JN131621 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Amman, 13 Mar (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court today Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for special political affairs, who arrived in Amman today within a tour of a number of regional countries.

Received by Al-Rifa'i, Al-Masri

JN131243 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for special political affairs, accompanied by Jean-Claude Aime, his adviser for Middle East affairs, at noon today.

Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received Goulding today. Al-Masri and Goulding discussed the latest developments in the situation in the Middle East. They reviewed Jordan's efforts to achieve a just settlement of the Palestine question and to establish a permanent and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. They reviewed the United Nations' role in this regard.

Goulding's visit to Jordan comes within his current tour of a number of regional countries to get acquainted with the current political situation on the occasion of assuming his post as successor to Brian Urquhart.

Reveals Support for Peace Process

JN150838 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Mar 86 pp 1, 24

[By Sana' al-'Alul]

[Text] Amman — Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, has expressed the UN secretary general's readiness to help in giving momentum to peace in the Middle East. In an exclusive statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Goulding said that he discussed with His Majesty King Husayn developments in the region. He added that the king presented his view regarding peace and the difficulties in facing the situation.

Goulding said that he conveyed to King Husayn UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's desire to formulate new proposals to end the Arab-Israeli conflict. Goulding added that the UN secretary general, who followed with concern King Husayn's initiative, still believes that Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 should be the basis for a solution to the Palestinian problem in the Middle East. He added: However, the UN secretary general agrees on using other UN resolutions related to the Palestine cause in an international conference if all concerned parties agree on this. Goulding stressed the need that the PLO should take part, in one way or another, in the peace talks held within the international conference.

Regarding the Israeli entity, Goulding said that the Israeli Government has a different view of peace; it wants peace, but not at any price.

Goulding said that in addition to the peace initiative which was recently obstructed, he discussed with King Husayn the situation in southern Lebanon during his tour. Goulding discussed chances for a settlement in the south between Lebanon and the Israeli entity.

Goulding said that during his meetings with the Israeli prime minister and the defense minister he presented a number of suggestions on an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, but the Israeli officials did not agree with these suggestions. Goulding will continue his contacts with Israeli officials in hopes of reaching a solution.

Regarding the international peacekeeping force, Goulding said: This force enjoys good relations with the southerners and all Lebanese parties are unanimous that this force should maintain its presence.

On Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for the advance of the peacekeeping force in the south, Goulding said that he discussed this subject with Israeli officials. He added that he tried to convince them to implement this resolution, but these officials would not allow UNIFIL to advance in the south.

UAE Paper: 'Sources' Say Visit by Murphy Denied

GF160736 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Dubayy, 16 Mar (WAKH) — Official Jordanian sources have revealed that Jordan refused to receive U.S. envoy to the Middle East Richard Murphy during his latest tour of the region which included Tunisia, Egypt, and occupied Palestine.

The Dubayy-based newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today quotes a high-level Jordanian source as saying that Murphy, who expressed a desire to visit Jordan during a telephone conversation which he held with Jordanian Foreign Ministry officials, was surprised by being asked if he was carrying a new proposal or a U.S. stand that might lead to the achievement of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East that meets Palestinian rights and the basic tenets of Jordan's peace policy.

The source said that when Murphy answered that the purpose of his visit was limited to consultation and exchange of views, the Jordanian officials declined to receive him.

The Jordanian source specified that Jordan refused to receive Murphy in order to avoid arousing suspicions of a separate or partial solution, especially after the Jordanian king announced the halting of political coordination with the PLO leadership, and so that the PLO and Syria will not interpret this as a Jordanian move on the path of separate settlement.

The source added that another reason for rejecting the visit is the attitude of the U.S. Congress and the Reagan administration concerning a deal for new weapons to Jordan.

Further on Negotiations To Free French Hostages

Ra‘d Discusses Negotiations

JN141808 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1737 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In an exclusive statement to Monte Carlo radio this evening, French envoy Dr Razzah Ra‘d affirmed that he had met with mediators who act between him and the Islamic Jihad organization. Dr Ra‘d told me verbatim: I have always said that I met with the mediators between me and the organization. I have never said that I met with the kidnappers.

In his statement to me, Ra‘d noted that he is continuing his efforts to end the crisis involving the hostages Kauffman, Carton, and Fontaine. He said that he met with Syrian officials today but he declined to reveal the identity of any of these officials. However, he praised Syria's cooperation with him.

Ra‘d said that he will leave for Paris tomorrow morning, together with the roving French ambassador in the region, Henri Servant, the French president's envoy, with whom Ra‘d always coordinates. Tomorrow, Dr Ra‘d will present a report to the French Government, thus placing the ball in its court. He said that based on the French Government's reaction, he would resume his mission and return here in order to follow up his sensitive, humanitarian efforts.

Dr Ra‘d told me that he is pessimistic about the fate of the fourth hostage, Michel Seurat. He said that the mediators between him and the Islamic Jihad are divided in their opinions. While some of them affirmed to him that Seurat had been executed, others believed that there is a 5 percent chance that Seurat is still alive. Dr Ra‘d's personal opinion is that there is a very little hope that Seurat is still alive. As proof of his remarks and upon my insistence, Dr Ra‘d revealed that the mediators gave him special papers belonging to Michel Seurat, including correspondence, letters, and some photographs. He said he would submit them to the French Government tomorrow in order to prove he had met with genuine representatives of the Islamic Jihad or who he calls the mediators.

Ra‘d Meets Hizballah Officials

NC142036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] According to some information we have received, Dr Razzah Ra‘d visited the Shaykh ‘Abdallah barracks in Ba‘labakk yesterday, and met with some Hizballah officials to discuss the question of the hostages.

'Draft Agreement' on Hostages

NC142239 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2215 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] French mediator Dr Razzah Ra‘d has announced in Damascus that he will return to Paris tomorrow with a draft agreement on the French hostages, which he said the French Government should study. He added that he would go back to Beirut if asked to do so.

Hostage Release 'Next Week'

LD142222 Paris Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The French Government's unofficial envoy, Dr Ra‘d, is to leave Damascus in the coming hours. Dr Ra‘d has made it known he will be bringing back a draft agreement to Paris tomorrow. In his view, the release of three of the hostages — Marcel Carton, Marcel Fontaine, and Jean-Paul Kauffmann — may take place as early as next week.

Shi‘ite Leader Urges Release

NC151439 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] His eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi‘ite Council, has appealed to whoever is holding the French hostages to ensure their safety and to cooperate with the efforts to bring about their release. His eminence also denounced France's extradition of two Iraqis to their country against their wishes.

Shaykh Shams al-Din made these remarks during a lengthy conversation with Bishop Hilarion Capucci, who telephoned from Rome. They discussed the situation in Lebanon and the French hostages. Shaykh Shams al-Din said: One must not protest against the misguided policy of a country by employing methods that restrict the freedom and threaten the safety of individuals who are not involved in the determination or implementation of that policy.

Ra‘d Returns to Paris

AU152023 Paris AFP in English 2017 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Claudine Canetti report]

[Excerpts] Paris, March 15 (AFP) — Dr. Razzah Ra‘d, a negotiator working for the release of French hostages held in Beirut, returned here Saturday saying he had established a dialogue with the kidnappers and knew them "by name."

He also held out the possibility that Michel Seurat, a hostage said to have been "executed" by his captors, might still be alive. But he did not give any hope for an early release of the seven or eight surviving captives.

He said he had received varying information on Mr. Seurat. "Half the kidnappers told me he was dead, and the other half told me he was 95 percent dead," Dr. Ra‘d told reporters at the airport. "This is part of the kidnappers' tactics to sow doubt and play on the nerves of the French," he said, adding that he felt both sides remained hopeful of finding a solution.

"There is a desire to continue (the negotiations), not to give up," said Dr. Ra'd, who arrived from Damascus aboard a private plan belonging to a former Lebanese cabinet minister, Michel Murr. He said he had requested and had been given the personal papers of Mr. Seurat, including letters, snapshots and other documents, to establish that he was indeed in contact with the genuine abductors. He said he was turning these over to Mr. Seurat's wife, Mary.

Among the kidnappers, he said, were youths who would like to "go to Europe to study," and he knew their names.

Dr. Ra'd stressed that he was an unofficial go-between, not a French Government envoy. This status had enabled him to make contact with the kidnappers, he said.

He said that France's ambassador to Tunis, Erich Rouleau, had succeeded in going to Tehran after another French emissary, Marc Bonnefous, had been refused a visa. The Islamic Jihad has been linked with Iran.

Dr. Ra'd said he had been unable to establish who had kidnapped the four-man television crew.

Hostages Taken to Al-Biqa' Area

NC160645 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that some French hostages were transferred to the Al-Biqa' area during the past 72 hours. According to the information, the convoy carrying the French hostages was not searched at the checkpoints. The information adds that the French hostages were transferred to a Ba'labakk village because the kidnappers were afraid that a raid might be staged to free the hostages.

Ra'd, France Clash Over Terms

AU161413 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Argentan, France, March 16 (AFP) — Razzah Ra'd, a Lebanese-born intermediary working for the release of French hostages in Lebanon, said Sunday that the captives could be released "immediately" if the kidnappers received "guarantees" from Iran and Syria.

But a personal envoy of President Francois Mitterrand suggested that Dr. Ra'd — who is working in an unofficial capacity — may have upset negotiations with the kidnappers by offering to meet all their demands, against the wishes of the government in Paris.

Doctor Ra'd, a Shi'ite Moslem cardiologist who is a French citizen, returned from Beirut Saturday and was speaking in this western French town where he is standing as a right-wing candidate in legislative elections Sunday.

He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the kidnappers had accepted proposals from the French Government for the first time.

He said these centered on the release of five members of a commando held in France for allegedly trying to assassinate Shahpur Bakhtiar, the last Iranian premier under the shah, in 1980.

"The kidnappers now are only waiting for guarantees from Syria and Iran. And if they obtain them, the hostages could be freed immediately," he said.

In Paris, however, Omrane Adhan, President Mitterrand's personal envoy to Syria, said on the state-run TF-1 television channel that if efforts made by Damascus to end the crisis failed, it would be "because of intervention by French citizens in the affair."

These persons "promised the kidnappers that they would have the French authorities accept all their demands," he said in a clear reference to Dr. Ra'd.

"The French Government was not informed of what Dr. Ra'ad said on this subject," Mr. Adhan said, after returning from Damascus where he delivered a message from Mr. Mitterrand to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

In response, Dr. Ra'd strongly denied he had overstepped his mission, and described Mr. Adhan's suggestions as "counter-truths and disinformation," formulated for electoral gain.

Dr. Ra'd is negotiating with Islamic Jihad, the pro-Iranian Moslem fundamentalist group which kidnapped journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, diplomats Marcel Fontaine and Marcel Carton and researcher Michel Seurat almost a year ago. The kidnappers have claimed they killed Mr. Seurat to press their demands.

Dr. Ra'd showed documents relating to Mr. Seurat which he said he received from Islamic Jihad. They included several colour photographs of the researcher's wife and daughters dated from January and July of last year and several letters to Mr. Seurat from his family.

Hizballah Rejects Ra'd Remarks

NC170749 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The Hizballah organization has issued a statement that says: The remarks made yesterday by an individual known as Razzah Ra'd to the effect that Hizballah has agreed to resolve the hostage issue on the condition that it receive Syrian and Iranian guarantees, are untrue. The statement also contains Hizballah's reiteration of the fact that it has nothing to do with this problem. Those concerned are the ones who kidnapped the Frenchmen, namely, Islamic Jihad.

The declaration states that Razzah Ra'd did not meet a single Hizballah official during his stay in Beirut.

Dr Ra'd noted yesterday that the French hostages held in Lebanon could be freed immediately, as the kidnappers are waiting only for Syrian and Iranian guarantees. Dr Ra'd pointed out that this was the first time that the kidnappers had agreed to the

French proposals, provided that they be coupled with certain undisclosed Syrian and Iranian guarantees. Dr Ra'd explained that these proposals are connected with the release of five commandos detained in France following an attempt to assasinate former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar in 1980.

Group Claims It Kidnapped French TV Crew

NC141710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1640 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] A group calling itself the Organization of Revolutionary Justice [Munazzamat al-'Adl al-Thawriyah] claimed responsibility this evening for Saturday's kidnapping of four French citizens.

The claim was made in a type-written statement bearing today's date that was delivered to an international news agency in Beirut. The declaration was accompanied by photocopies of press cards belonging to Georges Hansen and Jean-Louis Normandin.

The statement accused successive French governments of being behind the Lebanese people's suffering. It described the abduction of the French television crew on Saturday as a warning to the French government that would prompt the French people to put a stop to their country's political and military activity in Lebanon.

Karami Criticizes 'Undisciplined Personnel'

NC161559 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Today in Tripoli, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that Lebanon is going through a difficult and critical phase because of irregular practices by undisciplined personnel. He added: I believe that an end must be put to this painful situation because 99 percent of the Lebanese people refuse to submit to an oppressive minority.

Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shas al-Din [Deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council] has expressed regret that the Damascus agreement on West Beirut has not been implemented. He called for a security force that is acceptable to the citizens.

Birri Comments on Aims of Vatican Initiative

NC151648 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, today stated that the Vatican initiative seeks to achieve two aims: The first is to unite the Christian ranks, particularly the Maronites, and the second is to examine the possibility of restoring dialogue between the regime and Damascus.

Minister Birri continued: We are not opposed to the Vatican's endeavors to unite the Christian ranks, provided such efforts fall within the framework of a plan to achieve a unified Lebanon. He noted that the Vatican initiative has failed to live up to the magnitude of the Lebanese crisis. Following the clear response made by the leadership of the Lebanese Forces at the Burj Hammud ceremony [on 12 March], it became apparent that the Vatican emissary's mission had failed, he added.

Responding to a question, Minister Birri said: We will not accept any settlement that prevents us from abolishing political sectarianism and putting Lebanon on the road toward justice and equality. He added: The tripartite agreement is the minimum that can be accepted. This is the nationalist forces' answer to the initiative.

Birri on Amal Security Measures in Southern Suburb

NC151835 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Responding to a question about the security measures that the Amal Movement began adopting in Beirut's southern suburb today, Minister Nabih Birri said: There have been reports of attacks and robberies recently, particularly on the airport road and at some of the entrances to the southern suburb. This matter has been raised at a meeting of the National Action Committee.

He added: It was indeed necessary to tackle this problem and to stop such violations, especially along a main artery, such as the airport road. Orders were issued to the operations room, which then adopted security measures. These measures are designed to assist the Army, which is deployed along the airport road. There is no other purpose behind the measures than to ensure the security of travelers and the suburb.

Minister Birri continued: Among the reasons that prompted the institution of such measures was the assassination of Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz Faqih. As for the Amal Movement position on this assassination, it is known that the movement condemns and denounces such methods against anyone, let alone religious leaders. The responsible security authorities were asked to investigate the murder, uncover the perpetrators, and take the necessary measures.

Hizballah 'Acting on Direct Orders' from Khomeyni

NC161006 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The magazine *AL-SHIRA'* asserts that the Hizballah organization is acting on direct orders from Iran and in accordance with Ayatollah Khomeyni's instructions. In a report published in its latest issue on the anniversary of Hizballah's founding, the paper notes that, in 1982, Khomeyni assigned the Iranian Supreme Defense Council the task of regularly passing on his directives to Hizballah in Lebanon. The council includes Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and Revolutionary Guards Commander Muhsin Rifa'i.

As for the structure of the Hizballah organization, the paper states that it is comprised of a council of wise men [majlis hukama'] or consultative council. The council includes 22 members, mostly men of religion, but also some military figures.

Decisions are taken by a majority of votes. Matters of dispute are referred to Imam Khomeyni for decision.

1 Killed, 8 Wounded in Burj al-Barajinah Fighting

NC142043 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Intermittent fighting is going on between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in and around the Burj al-Barajinah camp. Preliminary reports indicate that these clashes have left one dead and eight wounded.

Pro-, Anti-'Arafat Factions Clash

NC141746 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Palestinian gunmen and members of the Amal Movement have been fighting since this afternoon at the entrance to the Burj al-Barajinah camp. Machineguns and rockets are being used in these clashes, which spread a short while ago to the area around Al-'Amiriyah College and Al-'Aryan-Zain al-Din Street. Fighting took place earlier between pro-'Arafat Palestinians and those opposed to him.

More Fighting Erupts in Upper Al-Matn Area

NC141309 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1245 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] We have just received a report that fierce fighting is taking place along the combat lines of Shrin, Zighrin, 'Ayn al-Tuffahah, and Shwayya. Various types of weapons are being used.

Further on Resistance Groups Fighting Israelis, Lahd

Israeli Settlement Shelled

NC131733 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The Islamic Resistance has announced that its martyr Rida al-Sha'ir group has stormed a position held by agent Lahd's militia at the Al-Dallashah-al-Surayri crossroads in the western Al-Biqa'. The post was (?cleared) and all those manning it were killed. Two military vehicles were destroyed and a number of tents were burned. The Islamic Resistance added that one member of the group was wounded.

Meanwhile, the National Resistance Front has issued a statement saying that a group from the Al-Aqsa Forces used three 107-mm rockets in a dawn attack on the settlement of (jradi), which was squarely hit. In another declaration, the Resistance Front noted that the martyr Saqr group fired four rockets at an enemy post in Bayt Yahun at 0500 today.

Rockets Hit Israeli-ASL Post

NC140642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The Resistance Front announced this morning that at 2300 yesterday one of its groups fired two rockets at a position in Jabal Basil, held jointly by the Israelis and the Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL]. The rockets hit the target and set it on fire. Losses have not yet been determined because the enemy cordoned off the area.

10 'Enemy' Reported Killed

NC141252 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Ten enemy personnel were killed and a number of vehicles destroyed today. A statement released by the Islamic Resistance said that the martyr Abu Muhammad Rida al-Sha'ir group infiltrated a position at midnight, held jointly by Israeli and Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL] personnel at the Lucy farm. This position had been set up 20 days ago. At 0300, the group launched a four-pronged attack on the position, destroying tanks and a personnel carrier, and killing the guards. The group then took the position and killed all 10 men in it. Immediately afterward, Israeli and ASL vehicles coming from the Al-Ahmadiyah hills and Al-Surayri tried to surround the resistance men. A clash ensued and vehicles were destroyed and occupation soldiers killed. The resistance group lost Bassam 'Abbas, who was killed; three others were injured. The occupation forces took the body of the martyr before withdrawing. They refused to hand it over to the Red Cross as they had earlier refused to hand over the body of martyr Rida al-Sha'ir, which they retain. The other members of the resistance group managed to return safely to base.

After the attack, the occupation forces shelled the township of Qilya, hitting several houses. They prevented residents from leaving or entering the town and also opened sniper fire at the cars that tried to go in. This prompted the army at Zillaya to block the road to protect the citizens.

Israeli Settlement, Runway Hit

NC150727 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] A National Resistance group shelled Bezet settlement this morning, hitting a runway for Israeli warplanes inside the settlement.

Israeli Patrol Attacked

NC151234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Lebanese resistance men destroyed an Israeli jeep and an armored personnel carrier in an attack against an enemy patrol on the Al-Tayyibah road today. Resistance men also attacked a joint position held by Israeli forces and Lahd militias along the 'Aynata-Saff al-Hawa road. The enemy suffered many casualties.

Israeli Casualties Reported

NC160616 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The Lebanese Resistance Front this morning announced that one of its groups carried out a daring operation against an Israeli infantry patrol on the 'Alma al-Sha'b road last night. Four Israeli troops were either killed or wounded. An enemy support unit arrived in the scene immediately and mounted a wide-scale search, using flares. Two resistance men were slightly wounded but all the group's personnel managed to return safely to base. The enemy radio has admitted the operation, but made no mention about casualties.

France To Sell Arms to Syria; Compensate Israel

GF151752 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 14 Mar 86 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Paris]

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Paris have revealed that Syria will obtain advanced Mirage-2000 aircraft and (Dobin) helicopter gunships in addition to Matra air-launched missiles and air-to-ground Exocet missiles.

These advanced weapons are part of a big armament deal signed recently between France and Syria during a secret visit to France by a high-ranking Syrian military delegation led by Lieutenant General Mustafa Talas. The sources added that France has decided to compensate Israel by lifting the ban it imposed on French arms dispatches to Israel. Within this framework France has agreed to provide Israel with nuclear reactors for electrical power and designs for building advanced guns for tanks, advanced Saar-5 corvettes, and air-to-ground and air-launched missiles.

Al-Asad Receives Call From Mitterrand on Hostages

JN151412 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1403 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 15 Mar (SANA) — French President Francois Mitterrand telephoned President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday. They discussed the kidnapped Frenchmen in Lebanon.

Receives French Envoys, Message

JN151527 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Damascus President Hafiz al-Asad received the envoys of French President Francois Mitterrand, Pierre Montaine and Umran Adham, at 1330 today. The two envoys conveyed to the president a message from President Mitterrand.

Faruq al-Shar' Receives UN Officials for Talks

JN161201 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, and Jean Claude Aime, director of Goulding's office, at 1100 today. The meeting was attended by Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah, and Jalal al-Barudi, acting director of international organizations department at the Foreign Ministry.

The talks revolved around the situation in southern Lebanon and Israel's occupation and repressive measures against civilians in southern Lebanon. They affirmed the need for withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory and for reinforcing the role of UN forces and deployment along the border strip in implementation of Security Council resolutions.

Discuss Israeli Intentions

JN161628 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, and Jean Claude Aime, director of Goulding's office, at 1100 today. The foreign minister disclosed to the UN under secretary general Israel's premeditated hostile intentions against Lebanon and Syria, as was mentioned in the recent message distributed among the UN members by the Israeli delegate attacking Syria for supporting the Lebanese national resistance and for its endeavors to establish strategic balance.

The minister explained that the Israelis should bear the results of their savage invasion of Lebanon and should realize that the national resistance against the Israeli occupation forces is a legitimate right approved by all international norms and laws and by the UN Charter. He asserted that Israeli threats to Syria for working to establish strategic balance undoubtedly confirm that Israel rejects the establishment of just and lasting peace in the region.

Assembly Speaker Returns From APU Conference

JN141727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Damascus — A People's Assembly delegation led by Speaker Muhmud al-Zu'bi returned to Damascus this evening after participating in the Fourth Arab Parliamentary Union conference in Amman 9-14 March. Al-Zu'bi made a statement to a SANA correspondent in which he said: The conference was dedicated to discussing a number of issues that concern the Arab nation. These issues were discussed with a high level of pan-Arab responsibility. The conference adopted resolutions on these issues reflecting the entire Arab masses' hopes and aspirations.

Al-Zu'bi added that the Syrian Arab delegation enriched the conference with a number of draft resolutions approved after elaborate and constructive deliberations by the political committee and the parliamentary dialogue committee. The resolutions deal with the current Arab situation, the requirements of steadfastness, the occupied Golan, the Palestine question, Lebanon, and U.S.-Israeli threats against the Syrian Arab Republic and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The Syrian Arab delegation also presented a memo to the conference on the first conference of American parliamentarians of Arab origin. It submitted a proposal on the project related to the establishment of a unified Arab parliament which was approved. Al-Zu'bi said that the conference affirmed its support and backing for Syria in its defense of its sovereignty and steadfastness in the face of the aggressive Zionist and imperialist policy. The conference announced that any aggression against Syria is considered an aggression against the entire Arab nation. It also announced that Syria's security is part of the Arab nation's security.

Al-Zu'bi said that the conference condemned the calumnies made by the United States and Israel against Syria and the

Libyan Jamahiriyah. The conference expressed its pride in and respect for the heroic struggle our kinfolk in the Golan are waging. It praised their steadfastness and adherence to their national identity and their resistance to repressive and terrorist acts.

Mahmud al-Zu'bi concluded:. The Arab parliamentarians' assertion of militant solidarity which is hostile to Zionism and imperialism, as well as achieving strategic Arab parity with the Zionist enemy is a real translation of the Arba masses' feelings and their stand on the major danger represented by continous Zionist-imperialist aggression against the Arab nation. This, consequently, reflects the support enjoyed by Syria and its course of steadfastness and confrontation in defending Arab destiny and dignity. The People's Assembly speaker addressed a greeting of gratitude and love to the brothers in Jordan — people, king, parliament, and government — for the care, attention, and sincere affection that the Syrian Arab parliamentary delegation received, as well as for the apreciation of Syria and its leader, President Hafiz al-Asad.

Papal Envoy Silvestrini, Delegation Depart Damascus

JN131126 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Papal envoy Monsignor Achille Silvestrini, the Vatican's foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation left Damascus this morning following a visit to Syria during which he conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Pope John Paul II dealing with the peace efforts in Lebanon.

'Huge' Explosion Reported in Damascus

NC141930 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] According to our exclusive information, a huge explosion took place last night in Damascus' Al-'Abbasiyin Square. The blast occurred when a refrigeration truck rigged with a large quantity of explosives blew up, causing casualties and serious material damage.

Over 100 Killed, Injured

NC161244 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] According to additional information received by the Voice of Lebanon, it turns out that the explosion in Damascus' Al-'Abbasyin Square took place at 1815 last Thursday near the Tropicana swimming pool, a few meters away from a building occupied by Soviet experts. The explosion caused a hole 30 meters wide, and killed and injured more than 100 persons.

Zia Call for PLO Recognition of Israel Noted

TA160725 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Foreign Ministry sources are not too enthusiastic about Pakistan President Ziaul Haq's reported statement, urging the PLO to recognize Israel.

Israel's policy was and remains not to negotiate with the PLO, said ministry sources. Zia, they noted, had not urged Jordan or even Syria to open talks with and recognize Israel. "It would have been more positive had he done this."

The sources did not relate to the fact that it was a major Moslem leader who had implicitly urged recognition of Israel. They focused only on the PLO link in the Zia statement.

Syria Beefing up Navy With New Acquisitions

TA131047 Tel Aviv BAMAHANE in Hebrew 12 Mar 86 p 9

[Report by Katri'el Ben-Arye]

[Text] The Syrian Navy has recently grown significantly stronger after receiving two "Romeo" submarines from the Soviet Union.

The acquisition of these vessels represents a new phase in the beefing-up of the Syrian Navy. Since 1973, this Navy has increased both in quantity (from 28 to 40 war vessels) and quality. Its coastal defense system has been reinforced through the acquisition of "Sepal" surface-to-surface cruise missiles with a range of 300 km. In addition, the Syrian Navy plans to purchase four "Nanuchka" missile corvettes equipped with shipborne surface-to-air missiles and an improved model of "Styx" surface-to-surface missiles with a maximum range of 45 miles.

The Navy is being reinforced as part of the two-pronged process of increasing the size of the units and improving the quality of the warfare means which the Syrian Army has been undergoing since the Peace for Galilee operation. The main purpose of this process is to raise the Army to what the Syrians call "strategic parity" with Israel.

Composition of the Syrian Navy

20 missile boats (of the "Osa I," "Osa II," and "Komar" models);

2 antisubmarine vessels (of the "Petya I" class);

4 mine warfare vessels (1 "T 43," 2 "Vanya," 1 "Yevgenya");

8 torpedo boats ("P 4" model);

6 patrol crafts ("CH" type).

Rabin Criticizes Arabs Over W. Bank Negotiations

TA152115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that he does not consider the leaders of the territories to be possible parties for political negotiations because the PLO, Jordan, and the Arab world will not let them be partners to such negotiations. When one of these leaders appears to be an interlocutor, Arab terrorism acts against him.

The defense minister also said that we must seek peace, but we must also prove to the Arab world that we are not impatient and that we are capable of continuing our control over the territories without a time limit and without our humanitarian image being damaged. He was speaking at Bet Hazanhan in Ramat Gan, at a ceremony marking 4 years since the death of Major General Avraham Orli. His remarks were reported by our correspondent Meron Tzur.

Coverage of Finnish Foreign Minister's Visit

Meets With Shamir

TA141237 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Israel and Finland will work to strengthen the friendly relations between them, particularly in the economic and cultural spheres. A delegation of industrialists and businessmen from Israel will soon leave for Finland to examine the possibilities of expanding bilateral trade. This was decided today by Finnish Minister of Foreign Affairs Paavo Vayrynen and his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir.

The visiting minister invited the foreign minister to pay an official visit to Finland. The invitation was accepted in principle.

Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that the Finnish minister explained to Minister Shamir the historical background to his country's neutral stand, but emphasized that Finland has decided to adopt a more active position.

Discuss Regional Issues, UNIFIL

TA141845 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Finland's Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen says he hopes for increased trade with Israel. At a meeting today with Israel's Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir there was disagreement about the role of UN forces in south Lebanon, although the general tone of the talks was described as warm and friendly. Vayrynen says he will discuss the UNIFIL issue in more detail when he meets with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. At the Foreign Ministry today was Steve Weizman, who files this report:

The Finnish foreign minister said his government recognizes UN Resolutions 242 and 338, and is fully committed to peace in the region. At the same time, Finland feels that the PLO must participate in the peace process. Shamir responded by saying that the PLO is opposed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict, and urged Finland to reconsider its support for Yasir 'Arafat.

Another topic on the agenda was the situation in south Lebanon and, in particular, the role of UNIFIL in the area. Shamir pointed out that while he intended no criticism of Finland or any other state contributing to the UN force, the situation on the ground made it impossible for UNIFIL to successfully keep the peace. UNIFIL's mandate barred it from the use of force. This, he said, made it impossible to function in a land ruled by violence. Vayrynen thought the UN soldiers still had a useful role to perform, and called for Lebanon to be restored to its full territorial integrity. He did not elaborate.

Meets With Peres

TA160842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister returned from Sweden early this morning. This morning he met with Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Paavo Vayrynen. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that the guest requested of the prime minister that Israel consider a change in its attitude toward UNIFIL. Our correspondent notes that in earlier talks the Finnish minister had held with the foreign and defense ministers there was a difference of opinion; the Israeli ministers expressed opposition to a change in the force's mandate or deployment.

At the end of the meeting with Mr Peres the Finnish foreign affairs minister said his impression was that the prime minister is openminded about considering changes.

Sums Up Talks at Conclusion

TA161415 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Paavo Vayrynen concluded his visit to Israel at noon today by delivering a lecture at the Truman Institute of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Later he provided courteous but clear and quite firm answers to questions by journalists, including our correspondent Gid'on Remez.

[Begin recording] [Remez] After surveying the historical background for Finland's neutral stance, Vayrynen proceeded to sum up his talks in Israel. Despite the emphasis on the sincere, friendly relations and the desire to develop cultural and economic ties, the discussion rapidly shifted to the bones of contention. First, he rejected the request by his counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir, to change Finland's attitude toward the PLO.

[Vayrynen — in English] Mr Shamir asked Finland to change our position vis-a-vis the PLO. I answered by repeating our position and by telling him that we can't change our position because it is based on our evaluation of the real position, real role played by the PLO.

[Remez] The visiting minister said that his country's position is based on an assessment of the PLO's real role. Finland believes it is the most important, if not sole, representative of the Palestinians, and that it has a role to play in any peace negotiations. The PLO was allowed to maintain a public relations office in Helsinki, although devoid of diplomatic status. When I asked how this is compatible with the categorical condemnation of terror by the guest, Vayrynen responded by saying he could not condemn every terror act, and that even an invasion of another country is terror.

The main dispute concerned Lebanon. Vayrynen would like to see UNIFIL deployed along the Israeli border in a way that will both manifest the force's mandate and contribute to security. However, he thought it was pointless to ask for this; instead he asked for a more positive Israeli attitude and Israel's influence on the U.S. Congress, which recently cut UNIFIL's budget, thus jeopardizing its future.

Were you asked to do a similar service for us with the Soviets, with whom you, the Finns, have special relations with regard to matters important for Israel? I asked. Vayrynen first replied that Finland only has a technical role in representing the USSR in Israel. I had to pose an additional question to get the following response:

[Vayrynen — in English] They [the Israelis] have talked to us outside the official negotiations to do what we can do to, in the first place, improve relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, and secondly, to influence the Soviet Government so that they would let Jews leave the country.

[Remez — translates and continues]The Finnish minister added that according to diplomatic procedures he will bring this to the attention of Soviet officials, but that Finland will not be able to do more than this. [end recording]

Peres Proposes Economic Forum With Arab Countries

TA151010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres conferred with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi in Stockholm this morning. In the meeting, Mr Peres proposed economic cooperation among all the Mediterranean countries and the establishment of a joint forum of the Arab countries and Israel and he even presented a document on this issue. He said he was very apprehensive about a serious economic crisis in the Arab countries in the wake of the drop in oil prices and mounting unemployment.

Our correspondent in Stockholm, Yisra'el Segal, reports that the Italian prime minister's initial reaction was very positive.

Direct Negotiations With Jordan Being Formulated

TA150538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Israel and the United States are currently formulating new procedures for direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan under the auspices of an international forum, figures close to Prime Minister Peres told our correspondent in Stockholm Yisra'el Segal this morning.

Prior to attending the funeral of Olof Palme this morning, Peres conferred with the Italian prime minister and with the West German chancellor. Last night he took part in a dinner attended by the prime ministers of Spain and West Germany, the president of Portugal, and the president of the Socialist International. Later he visited the site where Palme was assassinated.

Egyptian Tabah Talks Chairman Sees 'Big Gaps'

TA141000 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] Egypt will not agree to have Israel impose on it the promotion of the normalization of relations, and it will promote its bilateral relations with Israel only in those areas in which it has interest. These remarks were made yesterday by Nabil al-'Arabi, a prominent Egyptian legal expert and the chairman of the Egyptian delegation to the talks on Tabah and the normalization of relations with Israel. Following are selected excerpts of his interview with the *DAVAR* correspondent.

Question: How do you sum up this current stage of the talks between Egypt and Israel?

Answer: Agreement was reached between the sides on various administrative issues, but a gap remains on certain other issues which we are still discussing. As for matters of substance, such as the question that will be posed to the arbiters (on the Tabah issue), I must admit that there is still a big gap in the positions of the two sides.

Question: Was any progress made in the formulation of the arbitral compromise stating that the arbiters would in the first stage attempt to find a solution to the Tabah dispute by means of conciliation?

Answer: Egypt has never accepted Israel's position that in the first stage efforts would be made to solve the Tabah dispute by means of conciliation, and that is why the gap in the positions of the sides remains so wide. Also, the sides have not yet agreed on the arrangements which would be effected in Tabah after the arbiters have issued their ruling. We have discussed this subject, and each side still adheres to its position while it studies the position of the other side. Generally speaking, one may say that the gap in the positions of the sides on matters of substances remains wide. Also, we have not yet completed the deliberations on all the procedural matters.

Question: It has been mentioned that you agreed to promote the normalization of relations with Israel in certain areas such as trade, tourism, and agriculture.

Answer: The Israeli tourism minister will soon visit Cairo and will discuss all the issues he wants to raise with his Egyptian counterpart. We did not deal with tourism subjects in our talks here. The gist of the Egyptian position on the question of normalization is as follows: We maintain peaceful relations with Israel and, consequently, there is room for bilateral relations between us as a result of our neighborly ties. Nevertheless, Egypt will fill these ties with substance only in those areas when the two countries share a common interest in doing so. Under no circumstances will we agree to your point of view, the gist of which is that you want to impose the normalization of relations on us. We will carry out bilateral agreements only when we have an interest in doing so and when you have a similar interest. There are certain areas in which there is a common interest in promoting bilateral relations, but such an interest does not exist in certain other areas.

PM Office, Foreign Ministry Differ on Egypt Report

TA160659 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Mar 86 pp 1, 8

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] Egypt's submission to Israel last week of a report on the Ra's al-Burqa' killings last fall has opened a minor fissure between the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office. The rift is the latest expression of the ambivalence that has characterized the Labour-Likud government's dealings with Egypt since 1984.

The Foreign Ministry on Thursday expressed dissatisfaction with the material submitted by Egypt, saying that it still needed to be studied and translated, but that it appeared to consist only of transcripts of the verdict and the trial of Sulayman Khatir, the Egyptian security policeman convicted of killing the seven Israeli tourists at a Sinai beach site last October 5. "This is not the report we have been requesting," said the ministry spokesman.

But Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, criticized the Foreign Ministry reaction, saying that Israel "should not cast aspersions on Egyptian judicial and court proceedings. It is an insult to their judicial system." Tamir suggested that had an opposite situation arisen, Israelis would have been very upset had Egypt criticized Israel's judicial system.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office said that there was "no precedent" for a country demanding that another set up a commission of inquiry to investigate a crime committed in its own territory by one of its nationals.

The sources were also highly critical of the implicit attempt to hold the Egyptian Government as a whole responsibile for the massacre at Ra's al-Burqa', which was "a local incident; a crime committed by an individual Egyptian security man."

The sources said that any intention to seek further Egyptian clarifications of the incident or to inquire into the activities and fate of the rest of the men in Khatir's unit would be "a political act." The sources said they opposed such a course.

Observers in Jerusalem are now awaiting completion of the translation of the Egyptian material to see whether the Foreign Ministry will "fight" the Prime Minister's Office over a possible request from Egypt for such further clarifications. Such a request would have to be submitted against the backdrop of the ongoing talks on Tabah and normalization of relations between the two countries, due to resume in Cairo later this week.

Kimche Denies 'Dissatisfaction'

TA170752 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Mar 86 p 2

[Text] David Kimche, director-general of the Foreign Ministry, yesterday flatly denied a report in Friday's *JERUSALEM POST* that Israel had expressed dissatisfaction with the Egyptian report on the Ra's al-Burqa' massacre.

"All that the newspaper was told," according to the ministry, "was that the documents received by Israel in Cairo included the transcripts of the trial (of Ra's al-Burqa' murderer Sulayman Khatir) and the court's judgment, and that this did not constitute a report."

THE POST, according to the Foreign Ministry, was told that the material contained 90 pages in Arabic and that the ministry would only be able to evaluate it after careful study.

Herut Factions Declare Verbal 'Cease Fire'

TA161311 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The camps in the Herut Movement at noon agreed on a verbal cease-fire in the wake of Yitzhaq Shamir's appeal to refrain from further announcements or declarations. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav quotes Shamir's confidants as saying that he decided if calm prevails he will propose a dialogue with Minister David Levi in a day or two.

Sharon Bids for Chairman in 'Compromise Proposal'

TA170548 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon is proposing that he be chosen chairman of the Herut Center. In a compromise proposal he has submitted to the Shamir camp, Minister Sharon proposes that the convention delegates be members of the new center. The center will be increased by an additional 50 delegates whose incorporation will be decided by a committee which he will head. According to the proposal, David Levi will be chairman of the executive and Yitzhaq Shamir will be chairman of the movement. To date one person has held both posts. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Yitzhaq Shamir and the leaders of his camp are opposed to the proposal, but they will discuss it today. The compromise proposal was worked out in talks between Ministers Ari'el Sharon and David Levi. Our correspondent points out that it would reinforce the strength of the Sharon camp in the movement.

W. Bank Delegation Asks Permission To Visit Jordan

TA161835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Members of the Hebron Hills District Village Leagues have asked permission to organize a delegation to go to Jordan. The delegation wants to express its support and confidence in Jordan's King Husayn.

Plan Drawn To Improve Conditions in Territories

TA161018 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 Mar 86 pp 1, 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Excerp] Israel has drawn a plan to improve the quality of life in the territories to the tune of $0.5 billion. The coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmu'el Goren, leaves for a 2-week visit to the United States this morning to raise funds for the plan which will be carried out by international aid organizations operating in the territories.

Our correspondent has learned that the plan includes a large number of projects to develop industrial zones near the large cities such as Gaza in order to create sources of employment. The plan also mentions improving conditions in school classrooms, hospitals, and health services and proposes a solution for crowded housing conditions in the refugee camps.

Our correspondent remarks that the United Nations has so far been reticent about these solutions. However, in deliberations with a visiting delegation of the International Development Association over 1 month ago, the Israeli plans were described as "interesting."

4 ASL Soldiers Injured in Clash With Terrorists

TA161335 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Four soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon were injured this morning in a clash with a terrorist squad near the village of Kunin. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the terrorists managed to flee to the area outside the security zone. LAW [light antitank weapon] missiles, RPG'S, and sabotage material in the possession of the terrorist squad were uncovered in subsequent searches.

Security Forces Demolish Apartment of Terrorist

TA161455 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1446 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] This afternoon security forces demolished an apartment belonging to the terrorist 'Abbas Khadir Ahmad Sulayman, 28, who was arrested a month ago. Our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor reports that Sulayman admitted to having stabbed a taxi driver on 31 December near Kibbutz Sha'alvim. The apartment is situated in the village of Bayt 'Ur al-Tahta on the Ramallah-Latrun Road.

Molotov Cocktails Thrown at Husayn Supporter House

TA161830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Molotov cocktails have been thrown at the house of Edward Khamis, member of the Jordanian Parliament, who lives in the Bethlehem area. Some slight damage was caused. Khamis recently made a speech supporting King Husayn, after the king's decision to end his policy coordination with the PLO.

Feb Cost-of-Living Index Up by 1.6 Percent

TA141251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Last month's consumer price index increased by 1.6 percent, the lowest index for February in the past 8 years. A 4-percent increase was registered in the price of fruit and vegetables, approximately 2.5 percent in the housing sector, and 1.5 percent in the price of food and in communications. By contrast, a 4-percent decrease was registered in the price of clothing and footwear.

Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that the rate of inflation during the 7 months since the implementation of the economic program is 25 percent.

On Sunday, the travel tax will go up by 3 new shekels, to stand at 179 shekels. The travel tax to Romania will increase by 1 shekel, making it 39 shekels.

There will be no wage increments in the salaries to be paid in approximately 2 weeks, and once again tax brackets will not be adjusted. According to estimates of the Central Bureau of Statistics, the March consumer price index will increase by at least 0.5-0.75 percent.

People in the Treasury are satisfied with the index. Officials in the Finance Ministry said that it verifies the predictions made when the economic program was formulated.

The secretary general of the Histadrut believes that the index proves that inflation is currently being curbed. He told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum that the Histadrut insists that the cost-of-living agreement which it signed with private employers is incumbent upon all sectors of the economy. The cost-of-living increment, Yisra'el Qeysar stressed, is paid to the workers only after price increases are actually implemented.

Arnon Tinburg, chairman of the Manufacturers Association, believes that the low indexes during the past months reflect price stability in the economy, and he believes that the price freeze should now be lifted. In addition, care should be taken to ensure that wages are not increased as a result of the new cost-of-living agreements.

Cabinet Discusses Budget Cuts, Economic Matters

TA161156 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Today's Cabinet session was mainly devoted to a debate on issues pertaining to the state budget and the economy. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that it was decided to see about implementing previous decisions to cut $300 million from next year's budget within the next week. These decisions include the imposition of an education levy and the taxation of old age allowances and maternity benefits. It was stated that as early as this week the prime minister would ask the coalition executive to see that the decisions are approved by the Knesset Finance Committee.

The Cabinet also decided to continue taxing until 1 October child allowances for the first three children of a family whose gross income is a minimum of 1,300 new shekels. The Treasury had requested that the taxation should remain in effect until April 1987.

Price Freeze To Be Extended, No Devaluation of Shekel

TA150832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 15 mar 86

[Text] The government intends to extend for a few months the law on the price freeze which is scheduled to expire in 3 months. This was stated by Finance Ministry Director General 'Immanu'el Sharon who added that the purpose is to avoid public expectations on the eve of the end of the freeze at a given date.

In an interview with our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein, Mr Sharon emphasized that there are no plans to devalue the shekel, but noted that the Treasury is examining recommendations issued by IMF experts to allow the rate of exchange to fluctuate.

Israeli Papers on Implications of Herut Convention

TA140620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 14 Mar 86

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] Today virtually all the newspapers analyze the lessons of the Herut Convention. Under the headline "Herut Ideology in Action," *THE JERUSALEM POST* writes that, on reflection, it would seem that any deep discussion of the party's ideology at this convention would have been superfluous. The brute force displayed almost from the opening minute up to the disorderly finish was no aberration and seems to represent the true essence of political methods as inspired by Herut ideology. For the first time since the establishment of the national unity government the rotation of the premiership is truly in doubt, and this time not because of the Labor Party or its leader but because of Herut's own refusal to deposit the necessary formal trust in the man who had been leading it.

On the same topic, *DAVAR* headlines its editorial: "Just Give Them the Keys." Although the editorial begins by saying that the natural reactions to the events which took place at the Herut convention are shock and anxiety rather than rejoicing, it quickly turns to the question of the rotation. The paper recalls that Deputy Prime Minister David Levi publicly questioned Yitzhaq Shamir's ability to deal with big and important issues. Maybe nothing better should be expected of Herut, the paper says. It goes on to discuss the violence displayed during the convention, saying that it stemmed from the absence of a democratic tradition in Herut. Still, whatever the case may be, the other political forces in the country and particularly the alignment must now come before their constituents and address the question of whether the keys should be handed over to these people. After all, they might do to the nation the same things that they did to their convention.

The spirit of *'AL HAMISHMAR*'s editorial is well reflected in its headline: "They Were Not Chosen To Rule." The paper advises Shim'on Peres to go to the president and inform him that he does not intend to carry out the rotation agreement, and that under the present circumstances he would rather go to elections. Such a move would speed up the split in Herut, which would find itself running for elections in two blocs. The Levi-Sharon bloc does not want to heal the rift because that would mean that Yitzhaq Shamir would continue at the top, and of the government as well.

HAMODI'A's editorial is more sober, although it also notes that the events of the Herut convention have important implications. Time will take care of things: The rotation is due only 7 months hence; the memory of the public is usually short; and if the Herut leaders reconcile their differences, then the image of their movement will have improved and the damage inflicted this week might not be that serious. However, it will not be easy to erase the bitter taste and hard feelings. Somebody probably took note of what was said in the convention and saved it for later use when the time comes.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Saudi Adviser, Message
LD160434 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, received at the headquarters of the presidency last night Mr 'Ali Mussalam, adviser of the Saudi Royal Court and special envoy of King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who conveyed a message from the Saudi monarch to the brother President Chadli Bendjedid. The meeting was attended by Brothers Larbi Belkhir, (?director of the Presidency) and Abdalkader Benkaci, director of international and cooperation affairs at the Presidency. The meeting was also attended by the ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Algiers.

Lebanon's Walid Junblatt Arrives, Received by Messaadia
LD162129 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt, president of the Progressive Socialist Party arrived in Algiers this afternoon. The Lebanese leader was received at the party headquarters by Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee.

On arrival at the airport, Junblatt stated to the press that it is very difficult to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis while the Zionists remain in South Lebanon, just as national harmony cannot be achieved while certain Lebanese parties continue to depend on the Zionist and American administrations. Junblatt also recalled the inseparability of the Lebanese cause from the Israeli-Arab conflict in general and from the Palestinian cause in particular. It may be recalled that Junblatt's visit to Algeria coincides with the commemoration of the death of the Lebanese leader Kamal Junblatt who was killed in action defending the Arab cause, in the first place the just Palestinian cause.

LIBYA

U.S. Navy Begins 'Hostile' Maneuvers off Libya
LD151730 Tripoli JANA in English 1620 GMT 15 Mar 86

["American Maneouvres Off Libyan Arab Shores" — JANA headline]

[Text] Washington, Rajam 4, March 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The American naval and air forces early today began hostile and terrorist maneouvres off the Libyan Arab shores.

The American ministry of war announced that combat aircraft from *Saratoga* and *Coral Sea* aircraft carriers will take part in these provocative exercises.

The aircraft carrier, *America*, and further 10 warships left the American eastern coast last week heading for the Mediterranean to join *Saratoga* and *Coral Sea* aircraft carriers.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Outgoing Algerian Envoy
LD170357 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1826 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 5, March 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution today received Mohamed Ali Ammar, member of the Central Committee of the Algerian F.L.N. Party and ambassador of Algeria to Jamahiriyah, who ended his term.

Also, the leader of the revolution received the Ethiopian information minister and member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party who is heading the delegation of his country to the second general International Conference of World Centre for Combatting Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reactionarism and Fascism.

Sudanese Prime Minister Ends Visit, Leaves
LD141537 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The Sudanese Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and members of his delegation have left Tripoli this morning at the end of their visit to the Jamahiriyah. They were seen off at the Tripoli International Airport by Engineer Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, the secretary of the General People's Committee, the committee's secretaries and a number of senior armed forces officers, and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in the Jamahiriyah and ambassador and members of staff of the Sudanese Embassy.

Thanks Libya for Helping Overthrow Numayri
LD141901 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Prime minister of fraternal Sudan, Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah, highly valued the stand of the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership with regard to questions of the Arab nation, Africa, and the world. He told JANA that the most prominent of these stands was Libya's support for the Arab people in Sudan before and after the triumph of the 6 April Revolution, when the Libyan Arab people participated effectively in overthrowing the domineering lacky regime of Numayri.

He stressed that Libya has offered and is offering material and moral support to its brothers in Sudan as its contribution to move our people forward and to overcome the economic crisis from which it is suffering as a result of the economic and political corruption created by the collapsed lacky regime. He said the relations linking the one Arab people in Libya and Sudan are immortal and are consolidated by the unity of blood, destiny, and Arabism in one soil.

In his statement to JANA this morning, he expressed great appreciation and admiration for the great cultural development and the giant accomplishments of the Libyan Arab people on the territory of the first jamahiriyah in history with the aid of the

Great 1 September Revolution in all spheres of life.

Statement Issued on Visit

LD142113 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 14 Mar 86

["Text" of statement issued at the end of a visit by Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and his accompanying delegation to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah]

[Text] Tripoli, 14 March (JANA) — Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, prime minister of the Republic of Sudan paid a working visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah at the head of an important delegation, which included Major General Uthman Abdallah, the defense minister, and Ibrahim Taha Ayyub [Foreign affairs minister], from the 12 to 14 March 1986. He was received by brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution. Daf'allah conveyed to him the Sudanese people's appreciation of the Libyan Arab people's support for the popular revolution in Sudan and pride in the vanguard role played by the leader of the revolution in stepping up the Sudanese people's struggle and ensuring the success of its popular revolution.

Talks were held with the participation of Engineer Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of general people's committee; and brothers Muhammad al-Mubarak, secretary of General People's Committee for Public services; Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of General People's Committee for Planning; and Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, secretary of People's Committee of People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; and on the Sudanese side Dr Jazuli Daf'allah, the prime minister; Major General Uthman Abdallah, the defense minister; and Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, the foreign minister. The talks dealt with all the issues concerning the two countries in the political, economic, military, and cultural spheres. The Libyan side reaffirmed the stand of the Libyan Arab people beside the Sudanese people in its struggle for liberating its will, maintaining its territorial unity, overcoming all its problems, and realizing the objectives of its popular revolution.

The Sudanese side stressed Sudan's stand beside the Jamahiriyah people in its legitimate defense against any attack which aims to violate the sanctity of its territory, air space, territorial waters, and sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra; and its condemnation of imperialist provocations, threats, and measures hostile to the Libyan Arab people with the intention of affecting its cultural accomplishments.

The two delegations (stressed) that facing the challenges to which the Arab nation is subjected requires the building of inner Arab strength, adhering to its issues of destiny and [words indistinct] the unified steps to reach comprehensive Arab unity. In this context they reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the Palestinian people's armed struggle for the total liberation of Palestinian soil, and the rejection and denunciation of all partial agreements and capitulation plans which aim to squander national rights and liquidate the Palestinian issue.

They also reviewed imperialist interference on the African Continent, which represents the return of the old colonialist role of domination and control over its peoples' capabilities. They strongly condemned every kind of imperialist interference under any banner. They expressed their support for the legitimate struggle of the peoples of southern Africa and Namibia to destroy racist settler domination in the south of the continent. The two delegations exchanged points of view on political and economic issues which concern the Arab nation and the African Continent and issues of world peace and security. Their points of view were identical regarding these issues. The two delegations express their satisfaction at what what accomplished in the implementation of agreements and the minutes of the agreement signed between the two brotherly countries. [as received] [Words indistinct] to continue their implementation to reach the achievement of the two peoples' objectives of unity and progress.

The Sudanese delegation expressed its appreciation and thanks for the brotherly hospitality they were accorded during the visit.

Talks Continue With Algerian FLN Delegation

LD151729 Tripoli JANA in English 1637 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 4, March 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A meeting took place this morning at the seat of the General People's Congress between members of the Secretariat of the General People's congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and several members of the Algerian F.L.N. party who arrived in Tripoli yesterday.

JANA learnt that meetings continued today between members of the Revolutionary Committees Movement in Libya and members of the F.L.N. The meetings are being conducted within the framework of carrying on dialogue which started in Algiers last February and centered on issues related to total Arab unity and matters of mutual interest for the two brotherly countries.

Bouhara, Algerian Party Delegation Leave Tripoli

LD161541 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli: Abderrezzak Bouhara, Algerian FLN Party Permanent Secretariat Central Committee member and in charge of foreign relations, departed Tripoli at noon today together with the accompanying delegation at the conclusion of a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahariyah.

In a statement to JANA, Bouhara stressed that the visit falls within the framework of fraternal relations between the two fraternal peoples in the Jamahiriyah and Algeria and the intention to lay down a precise program for various exchanges and meetings that concern the two revolutions and the two countries for attaining Arab Maghreb unity and a comprehensive Arab unity.

Iranian Deputy Minister Arrives for Visit

LD161050 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1040 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) — Brother Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, and the delegation accompanying him, arrived in Tripoli yesterday on a visit to

SPLAJ.

Delegations Arrive for Anti-Imperialist Conference

LD151303 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Delegations taking part in the second conference of the international rostrum for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism, which will be held on the soil of the Great Fatih revolution, continue to arrive.

Yesterday, Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, member of the regional command of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party of Syria; 'Umar Shihabi, member of the Political Bureau — General Command; Brother Abdullah Sa'adah, secretary of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; Brother Riyad Ra'd, member of the Political Bureau of the Progressive Socialist Party; Brother George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; Brother 'Isam Qanquwah, secretary of the Socialist Ba'th Arab Party in Lebanon, and Brother 'Umar Harb, secretary of the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon.

Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and secretary general of the committee for the Defense of the Revolution in Burkina Faso and his accompanying delegation also arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening to attend the second international conference of the international rostrum.

Al-Qadhdhafi Opens Conference

LD151958 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Mar (JANA) — This evening the brother leader of the revolution opened the second general world conference of the world platform for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction, and fascism, which is being held on the territory of the world platform — the soil of the great Al-Fatih revolution — under the slogan: For strengthening revolutionary cohesion and for the embodiment of the principle of collective struggle in confronting imperialist, Zionist, racist, reactionary, and fascist terrorism.

As the brother leader of the revolution arrived in the conference hall, revolutionary chantings were voiced saluting the struggle of the Al-Fatih revolution and calling for the downfall of U.S. imperialism, Zionism, fascism, racism, and reaction and asserting the cohesion of the free people of the world and their progressive forces with the great al-Fatih revolution and its leader in the courageous resistance of all U.S. imperialist and Zionist plots and provocations.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Representatives

LD161516 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received brother Mohamed 'Ali Ammar, member of the Algerian FLN Party Central Committee and Algeria's ambassador to the Jamahiriyah on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty in the Jamahiriyah.

The brother leader also received member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and Ethiopian minister of information who, is leading his country's delegation to the second general world conference of the world center for resisting imperialism, Zionism, racism, reaction and fascism.

Delegates Address Meeting

LD170955 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0215 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The Second International Conference of the International Center for combating imperialism, racism, Zionism, reaction, and fascism, which is being held under the slogan "For the consolidation of revolutionary cohesion and the implementation of the principle of mass struggle in confronting imperialist, Zionist, racist, reactionary, and fascist terrorism" continued its work in Tripoli yesterday afternoon. At the session the delegations of Ethiopia, Syria, Iran, the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso, the People's Republic of China, Cuba, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the Republic of Bulgaria, the representative of the alternative movements in Italy, the leader of the U.S. nation of Islam, the delegate of the Maltese Labor Party, the PLO, and the Chadian revolution spoke. A recorded dispatch by the correspondent of Voice of Greater Arab Homeland — the Voice of the Revolutionay Committees:

Arab brothers everywhere: We greet you from the People's Hall in Tripoli, and present to you this news report:

At 1600 hours, the second general international conference of the international center for combating imperialism, Zionism, reaction, fascism, and racism held its first session [as heard] with the attendance of more than 700 members representing more than 300 organizations, parties, liberation movements, and revolutionary committees. The session began with the reading of the resolutions that were issued by the conference at its first meeting. The platform was then given to the member of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and minister of information, [Felleke Gedle-Giorgis], who pointed out that the conference is being held at a critical time in the history of mankind owing to the terroristic being by the United States vis-a-vis the liberation movements in the world. He said that the Jamahiriyah is one of the victims of this hostile practices. He said: We would like to reaffirm our solidarity with the steadfast stance of the Jamahiriyah, which refuses submission. He added that there is a terrifying and alarming reality in the international arena that aims at ending the revolutionary movements, which strive and struggle for the realization of freedom for the oppressed peoples.

The Ethiopian information minister condemned the criminal terrorist actions being carried out by the United States against the countries that have been liberated, such as Cuba, Nicaragua, Angola. He also condemned the imperialist invasion of Grenada and expressed his country's support for the Palestinian Arab people and the latter's right to return to their homeland and establish their own independent state on their entire soil. He called for the adoption of the contents of the speech of the brother leader at the opening session as a program of action for the work of the conference. He also called on the Ethiopian Jews who were smuggled from their country to occupied Palestine as a result of imperialist-Zionist collusion to return to their homeland, particularly following their discovery of the falsehood of the claims with which they were deceived until they fell into the trap laid down by the imperialist and Zionist intelligence. After that the leader of the Syrian delegation [not named] spoke. At the beginning of his speech, he saluted brother leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and concentrated on the importance of that speech to the conference at the opening session. After reviewing the conspiracies being hatched by the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary circles against the Arab nation and its living forces, he renewed Syria's rejection of the stable david accords and Syria's determination to abrogate these accords just as the 17 May agreement [between Israel and Lebanon] was abrogated. He said that the actions being carried out by the capitulationist and conspiratorial policies against Libya and Syria are attempts to (?break up) the will of steadfastness, because the revolutionary wills are the ones that stand as a barrier against all the hellish conspiracies and plans and are the ones that made the heroic sagas in southern Lebanon that shook the forces of evil and forced them to flee, going back where they came from. He said: A people who make martyrdom their daily bread will never bow their heads because those who seek death are rewarded with life [in the world promised by God] and the will of the peoples is greater and more effective than any tyrant because the will of the peoples stems from God's will.

In the speech of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, it was pointed out that all those who have gathered here carry big wounds that have been inflicted by imperialism and colonialism. The common denominator for us all is the struggle against injustice and for the stability of justice and freedom for all nations. He said that the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran made imperialism feel that many of its bastions will fall, and therefore it embarked on (?hatching) its conspiracies and plans, which are hostile to freedom and mankind. A clear example of this is the treacherous aggression carried out by the Saddam Husayn's fascist regime against the Iranian people. The United States is trying very hard to label Libya and Iran with the accusation of terrorism, convinced that peoples will believe it. Here are the peoples before you, however, declaring that the great terrorist is satan Reagan.

After that the conference heard speeches from the secretary general of the committees of the defense of the revolution in Burkina Faso, the delegation of the Republic of Benin, the delegation of Cuba, and the representative of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement who said that this conference assumes profound importance and finds itself facing two fundamental tasks: The first task is solidarity with the Jamahiriyah and its revolution under the leadership of the brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in confronting imperialism and Zionism and their provocations, which are not aimed at Libya alone but at all the achievement of the Libyan Arab people, who have possessed their authority, wealth, and arms, as well as the vanguard and pan-Arab role in confronting the trend of capitulation and betrayal of the Arab people's central issue — the Palestinian question. He said that all U.S. interests everywhere should be relentlessly expelled if the United States is bold enough to carry out an aggression on the Jamahiriyah and its people or against any people in the world. He said that the second task stipulates that mass international resistance against imperialism, Zionism, reaction, fascism, and racialism should be organized so that solidarity will not remain coupled with historic or geographical occasions, but a firm daily practice. Cadres and foundations that make the free of the world a strong united front fighting together for the completion of the tasks of liberation and consolidating the achievements of liberation, which have been realized in many areas of the big world, should be established. The representative of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement then called on the conference to be guided by the contents of the brother leader's speech and to regard that speech, which was made at the opening session as an important document which determines the program of (?action) for the liberation movements in their political and military struggle.

Member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party [not named] then spoke pointing out that the imperialist policy led by the United States has made world peace deteriorate so much that it has made terrorism the paramount means for subjugating peoples. Therefore, it is not satisfied seeing Libya as one of the pioneers of liberation movements. It goes without saying that it therefore tries to bring the Jamahiriyah into disrepute in order to serve its vile interests. The Libyan Arab people, who were not intimidated by the hostile provocations, and thanks to the support this people received from the international liberation forces, were able to inflict defeat on the United States.

The representative of the Chadian national liberation movement, the leader of the black nation of U.S. Islam, the representative of the alternative movements in Spain, the representative of the Maltese Labor Party, the representative of the Palestinian revolution, and the representative of the alternative movements in Italy also spoke.

At 2030 hours the session was adjourned.

Libyan Charge Criticizes UN Security Council

LD160034 Tripoli JANA in English 1613 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] New York, Rajab 4, March 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The charge d'affaires of Jamahiriyah to the United Nations addressed the Security Council of the United Nations when the latter met to discuss the Iraqi complaint submitted to the Council last February against Iran's escalation of its military operations in the Gulf war.

The charge d'affaires expressed Jamahiriyah's bitter experience with the Security Council. He said that it became useless as far as its powers are concerned and that its effectiveness was lost as a result of irresponsible practices by the United States of America including the use of veto and its determination to jeopardise the United Nations and its organs in a bid to enable itself (America) to become the international policeman within the context of the so-called the imposition of American hegemony in the world.

He pointed out 'Before this council adds a further decision to its past paralysed decisions by demanding anything from Iran, the Council should implement its decisions on the Palestinian issue and enforce the necessary sanctions against the Israelis including a ban on arms sales to this entity and human values and conventions. [sentence as received] And the same applies to South Africa.'

He urged the Council to find a way for the implementation of the decisions which [it would] have taken had it not [been] for American tyranny and the veto it accustomed itself to use in a bid to paralyse the effectiveness of the council, so much so this organ could not find a way to condemn terrorist acts by a UN member against the safety of civilian aircraft which constituted a gross violation of all international conventions and customary rules.

The Libyan charge d'affaires stressed that 'as a result of the stalemate within the Security Council many nations including my country became aware that this organ [is] no longer able to fulfill its responsibilities. For this Council lost their confidence and respect and hope in it playing its role of maintenance of international peace and Security Council become an American council.' [sentence as received]

He called for a review of the veto on the basis of sovereign equality of states.

Tripoli Reports 'Exchange of Fire' in Cairo Suburb

NC170935 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] According to information from the Egyptian capital, an exchange of fire was heard this morning in the Al-Ma'adi section of Cairo's southern suburb. These reports add that the shooting continued for over an hour. A number of military helicopters hovered over Al-Ma'adi, which is where the Zionist embassy is located.

MAURITANIA

Joint Mauritania-Tunisia Commission Communique

AB132235 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
1430 GMT 13 Mar 86

["Press Communique" issued on 13 March in Nouakchott at the end of first meeting of the joint Mauritania-Tunisia commission for cooperation]

[Excerpts] Within the framework of the fraternal and privileged relations existing between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Tunisia and the treaty of fraternity and concord signed by the two countries, and in accordance with the agreement on the establishment of the grand joint Mauritania-Tunisia commission for cooperation [words indistinct], the first session of the grand joint Mauritania-Tunisia commission for cooperation met in Nouakchott from 9 to 12 March 1986. The Tunisian delegation was led by His Excellency Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, the minister of foreign affairs, and the Mauritanian delegation by His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

During his stay in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, His Excellency Beji Caid Essebsi was received in audience by His Excellency Colonel Maaoiuay Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state, to whom he delivered a friendly and fraternal message from the supreme fighter President Habib Bourguiba, the president of the Republic of Tunisia, and expressed the fraternal feelings that unite the Tunisian and Mauritanian peoples. His Excellency Colonel Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya charged Mr Beji Caid Essebsi to convey to his brother and friend, His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, his fraternal greetings and also wished the Tunisian people more progress and prosperity. Present at the audience were [words indistinct], Mr Anna Amadou Babaly, CMSN member and interior minister; His Excellency Ethmane Sid 'Ahmed Ould Yessa, minister of fisheries and maritime economy; and His Excellency Hasni Ould Didi, the minister of national education.

His Excellency Mr Beji Caid Essebsi visited several places of interest in Nouakchott, especially, the Pont de l'Amitie of Nouakchott and the project dealing with the prevention in shifting of sand hills.

The two delegations made a thorough review of bilateral and multilateral cooperation and outlined the prospects of cooperation in other fields in line with the recommendations of their two leaders.

In addition to these deliberations, the two ministers had several talks during which they discussed Arab, African, and international issues. They expressed pleasure over the identity of viewpoints on all the subjects discussed.

The Tunisian delegation expressed its gratitude to the Mauritanian delegation for the warm and fraternal reception given them during their stay in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. They agreed that the second session of the grand joint commission will be held in Tunis at a date to be fixed later through diplomatic channels by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Tunisia.

SUDAN

Election Nominations Period for South Extended

EA132139 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The National Elections Committee has decided to extend the period for acceptance of nominations for geographical constituencies in the southern regions by 3 days, beginning tomorrow, Friday [14 March], and continuing until next Sunday. The committee requests constituency officers in the southern regions to resume the acceptance of nominations.

Statement Issued on Daf'allah Visit to Libya

JN141911 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Mar (SUNA) — Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and his delegation consisting of Defence Minister Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah and Foreign Minister

Ibrahim Taha Ayyub returned here at 1600 today after a 2-day visit to Libya. In a statement upon arrival, the prime minister said that he held talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdahfi, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, and a number of senior officials in the Jamahiriyah on developing bilateral relations and issues related to the agreements signed between the two countries. Dr Al-Jazuli said that the Libyan leaders stressed their support for Sudan.

The prime minister was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister Sameul Aru and Major General Hamadah 'Abd al-'Azim, member of the Transitional Military Council.

The prime minister made a statement to JANA before departing the Jamahiriyah in which he said that the relations between the Arab people of Sudan and Libya are eternal and entrenched by the unity of blood, destiny, Arabism, and culture. He also stressed that Libya has always given financial and moral support to its brothers in Sudan to help the Sudanese people overcome the economic ordeal from which they are suffering due to the economic and political corruption created by the ousted Numayri regime.

The prime minister also praised Libya's stand alongside the Sudanese people before and after the victorious 6 April Revolution and Libya's effective contribution to toppling the dictator's regime.

A press statement was broadcast at 1900 today, Sudanese local time, in Kharotum and at 1800 today, Libyan local time, in Tripoli.

The following is the text of the press statement issued on Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah's visit to Libya:

Sudanese Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah paid a working visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah as head of an important delegation consisting of Defense Minister Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah and Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub from 12 to 14 March 1986. Prime Minister Daf'allah was received by Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution. The prime minister conveyed to Col Al-Qadhdhafi the Sudanese people's appreciation for the Libyan Arab people's stands in support of the popular revolution in Sudan as well as their pride in the leading role played by the leader of the revolution in escalating the Sudanese people's struggle and in making their popular revolution a success.

The two sides held talks with the Libyan side rerpesented by Brother Jadallah 'Azuz al-Talhi, secretary general of the General People's Congress; Brother Muhammad al-Mabruk, secretary for public service; Brother Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary for planning; and Brother Kamil Hasan Muqhur, secretary for foreign liaison. The Sudanese side to the talks was represented by Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, Defense Minsiter Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, and Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub.

The talks dealt with all issues concerning the two countries in the political, economic, military, and cultural spheres. The Libyan Arab side reiterated the Libyan Arab people's support for the Sudanese people in their struggle to liberate their will, preserve their territorial integrity, overcome all problems, and achieve the objectives of their popular revolution.

The Sudanese side stressed Sudan's stand alongside the Libyan people in their legitimate defense against any aggression encroaching on their land, air space, regional waters, and sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra. The Sudanese delegation also affirmed its condemnation of all imperialist provocations, threats, and measures hostile to the Libayn people aimed at their achievements. The Sudanese delegation also stressed that confrontation of the challenges facing our Arab nation calls for building up the nation's intrinsic power, abiding by decisive issues, and reinforcing the unifying steps to achieve comprehensive Arab unity. Within this frameowrk, the two sides reiterated their commitment to support the Palestinian people's armed struggle to liberate all Palestinian soil. The two sides also reiterated their rejection and condemnation of all partial agreements and capitulatory plans aimed at relinquishing the national rights and liquidating the Palestinian issue.

The two sides also reviewed colonialist interference in Africa which represent a return to the old colonialist role of imposing hegemony and control over its peoples' resources. The two sides strongly condemned all forms of imperialist interference under any slogan. The two sides announced their support for the legitimate struggle of the people of South Africa and Namibia to destory the racist hegemony and settlement in the sothern part of Africa.

The two sides exchanged viewpoints on the political and economic issues that concern the Arab homeland and Africa as well as the issues of international security and peace. The viewpoints on these issues were identical.

The two delegations expressed their satisfaction over what has been achieved in implementing the agreements and the minutes of the agreement signed between the two fraternal countries. They stressed their intention to go ahead with implementing the agreements to achieve the two people's objectives of unity and progress.

The Sudanese side expressed its appreciation and gratitude for the fraternal hospitality with which it was received during the visit.

Nation To Receive Arms From Libya 'Shortly'

JN161008 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 16 (SUNA) — Libya will shortly present arms to the Sudan within the framework of the military cooperation agreement between the two countries, deputy commander of the Peoples Armed Forces Gen. Taj al-Din 'Abdallah told the daily *AL-AYYAM* published here today.

The visit paid recently to Libya by defence minister Maj. Gen. 'Uthman 'Abdallah put the said agreement into effect in addition to the training agreement between Sudan and Libya, the deputy commander added.

TMC Chairman Receives Message From Mubarak

JN161514 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council Chairman General ‘Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhdhab has received a verbal message from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The message deals with the continuous bilateral consultation and coordination. It also deals with current developments in Arab and African regions. This came in a statement Egyptian Ambassador in Khartoum Hasan ‘Abbas Musharrafah made following a meeting with Gen Siwar al-Dhahab this morning.

The ambassador said that the Sudanese-Egyptian joint ministerial committees are expected to meet in Khartoum at the end of March to discuss the structure of integration and joint projects. The ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture, finance, transportation, education, and information will participate in committee meetings.

Parties Reject TMC's National Government Idea

JN161105 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 16 (SUNA) — The efforts exerted by the Transitional Military Council (TMC) for the formation of a national government after the general elections of next April have been foundered, TMC Member Gen. Muhammad Mirghani said. Mirghani also stated that the idea of setting up a national government following the elections was strongly rejected by the political forces.

Early, before TMC Deputy Chairman Taj al-Din ‘Abdallah had made intensive contacts with political parties chairmen and leaders in a bid to probe their views on a principal agreement regarding the formation of such government after the constituent assembly elections, but the move had been directly rejected. [sentence as received]

The idea of forming a national government after the elections, which was initiated by the TMC, was rejected by a great number of political parties leaders, representing vairous political directions on the ground that it was premature move. The objection against the idea also stemmed from the adoption by the TMC of this idea which was regarded by the political leaders as an inteference by the TMC in some affairs that did not concern it.

In a poll published by the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* in its today's issue, chairman and leaders of the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country, Democratic Unionist Party, Ba‘th Arab Socialist Party and Communist Party expressed their objection against the setting up of a national government, saying that if the idea should be looked into this could not be done unless after the elections in next April as all the matter was of the concern of the upcoming constituent assembly.

Garang To Lead SPLM to Addis Ababa Meeting

JN161059 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 16 (SUNA) — Talks between the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement SPLM and the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Countrys delegation is scheduled to begin tomorrow — Monday in an area about 90 km out from the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, the daily *AL-AYYAM* reported in its today's issue.

Col John Garang, the SPLM leader, will lead the negotiations on the SPLM side.

The newspaper had not explained the reason which led to the postponement of the negotiations which was expected to begin last Saturday.

Talks With Rebel Movement Postponed 1 Day

NC161210 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 16 (AFP) — Peace talks between Sudan's powerful national alliance for salvation of political parties and trade unions and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), scheduled to open in Ethiopia Monday, have been postponed by 24 hours, sources here said. No reasons were given for the postponement of the long-awaited talks, which are expected to focus on a cease-fire in fighting in the south of the country ahead of planned elections in Sudan next month.

The meeting, which will be the first top-level contact between SPLM leader John Garang and the influential grouping, is to take place at a yet-undisclosed venue outside Addis Ababa. It comes at a time of some spectacular successes in recent weeks by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the armed wing of the SPLM, which recently seized the strategic southern town of Rumbek and was threatening to capture Kurmok in central Blue Nile Province.

The SPLM, which has been in rebellion since 1983, has rejected the legitimacy of the government in Khartoum that succeeded ousted President Ja‘far Numayri.

Former Ugandan Premier Seeks Refuge in Sudan

JN161510 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) Otema Allimadi, former Ugandan prime minister in the Milton Obote government, has sought refuge in the Guli area in southern Sudan.

Also seeking refuge in Sudan is the family of General Tito Okello's brother as a result of the violent battles the Museveni government is waging against the forces of former Ugandan President Okello, who fled to Sudan recently.

This was stated here today by a responsible source of the refugee commission who added that most of those who sought refuge in Sudan recently as a result of these battles were mainly women, old people, and children. They are the families of pro-Okello fighters.

It is noteworthy that Sudan is currently exerting efforts to reconcile the Ugandan National Resistance Army under Yoweri Museveni and the Okello forces which are leading the opposition in the north after being overrun by the Museveni forces.

Students Continue Hunger Strike Despite Urging

JN160955 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 16 (SUNA) — All efforts exerted to convince the students-jurists to call off their hunger strike, which they staged since six days at the centre for training and qualifying of jurists here, failed, the daily *AL-AYYAM* today reported. Yesterday, Premier Al-Jazuli Daf'allah paid a visit to the striking students and urged them to lift their strike, promising them to tackle the issue, but they rejected the proposal and insisted to go on strike till their demands be met, *AL-AYYAM* added.

The students are demanding the rescinding of bar examination on the ground that the period of study they have already started should be accepted as qualification and therefore no need for examination.

On the other hand, *AL-AYYAM* reported that 127 of the striking students had been hospitalized due to hunger and that the condition of others was severely aggravating.

Al-Ummah Party Leader Al-Mahdi Arrested

JN151800 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 15 Mar (SUNA) — Ahmad al-Mahdi, leader of the Ummah Party and the Al-Ansar sect, was arrested today on orders of the attorney general after Al-Mahdi stopped payment on the check he gave to the committee entrusted with the task of liquidating and taking stock of the dissolved security organ. Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati said that the check was for 893,000 Sudanese pounds [words indistinct] five vehicles, which Al-Mahdi had received from the dissolved security organ.

TUNISIA

Security Uncovers Party With Iranian 'Ideologies'

LD171125 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1013 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 17 Mar (KUNA) — Informed sources here today said that the Tunisian security authorities have uncovered a new political party organization in Tunis that is called the Chosen Party of God [Hizballah al-Mukhtar].

These sources said that the security authorities have been able to uncover this organization right at the very beginning of its formation as the number of those who have joined does not exceed 20. The sources added that members of the organization believe in the ideologies of the Iranian revolution.

Last year the Tunisian security authorities uncovered a religious political organization whose leaders had received special religious teachings in the Iranian city of Qom.

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Radio: 4 USSR Advisers in Detonated Vehicle

EA151505 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] A Dergue military vehicle carrying four Soviet military advisers has been destroyed after it detonated a landmine laid by our heroic engineers unit. The vehicle carrying the four Soviets was travelling on the Asmera-Mandafara road and the Soviets were either killed or wounded. Dergue officials, panicked by this loss, have imprisoned a soldier dressed in mufti named [name indistinct] and another man named [name indistinct] after accusing them of laying the landmine.

Eritrean Front Claims 5 'Enemy' Troops Killed 8 March

EA160023 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] On 8 March 1986 members of our heroic People's Militia of the People's Front punished and forced to retreat an enemy force advancing toward [word indistinct] from Segeneyti. During this battle, the heroic members of our People's Militia killed 5 and wounded 30 enemy soldiers. In revenge for this defeat, the enemy bombarded the area using fighter aircraft and artillery. Its ground forces killed [name indistinct], a resident of [name indistinct].

Eritrean Military Rebels Report Recent Battle Gains

EA170406 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] The heroic Eritrean Peoples Liberation Army and members of the People's Front People's Militia have engaged and repulsed five brigades of the Dergues Army which were advancing on (Lailai Baraka) from four directions. During this battle, which took place from 9 to 11 March 1986, our combatants and members of our People's Militia killed four, wounded two, and captured seven Dergue soldiers and captured seven guns. The brigades have retreated. The Dergue officials avenged themselves for the defeat of their soldiers by executing four of them during the battle.

UGANDA

AFP: Museveni Completes 3-Day Tour of Gulu

AB141730 Paris AFP in English 1712 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 14 (AFP) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni on Friday completed a three-day inspection of Gulu in northern Uganda, which his National Resistance Army (NRA) captured from forces of the former military regime on Saturday, Uganda radio said.

The radio quoted Mr Museveni as telling elders in the town, 320 kilometres (200 miles) north of Kampala, that his government would not allow anyone to be victimized on the grounds that he belongs to the same tribe as past leaders of Uganda, who had committed crimes against the people.

Most of the past leaders of this East African country have come from the north, which is inhabited mostly by Nilotic tribes.

The radio did not mention the security situation in Gulu, but sources in Kampala said on Friday that the NRA had consolidated its position in the town and that it was closing in on the town of Kitgum about 64 kilometres (40 miles) to the north-east.

The sources said Lieutenant-General Basilio Olara Okello, the former army commander under the ousted military regime, had fled from Kitgum into nearby southern Sudan.

Most observers in Kampala now believe that the fighting is over for the NRA, which is said to be meeting virtually no resistance from the Okello forces as it moves to take the remaining towns in northern Uganda.

Further on Fleeing of Basilio Okello

EA151741 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 15 Mar 86 p 20

["NRA Nears Kitgum as Basilio Flees Country" — by Henry Gombya, Gulv Friday]

[Excerpt] Uganda former chief of the Defense Forces, Lieutenant General Basilio Olara Okello, has fled the country following the capture of Gulu Town in the north by the National Resistance Army (NRA). Okello, who has been waging war since Kampala fell to the NRA last January, fled Kitgum town early this week, according to travellers reaching Gulu yesterday from the north eastern town, 120 km east of here. They said he flew out in a Ugandan Army helicopter and was reported to have gone to Juba in southern Sudan.

Former defense minister in General Tito Okello's military government, Brigadier Sad Wilson Toko, is also reported to have fled to Aru in Zaire.

The NRA troops by yesterday were only 12 km away from Kitgum and were camping at Acholibur. Hundreds of NRA soldiers are being deployed in northern Uganda and only yesterday 10 truck-loads of soldiers were heading towards Kitgum.

President Yoweri Museveni visited his troops in Gulu on Tuesday (11 Mar) and spoke to Acholi elders led by Democratic Party vice-president, Mr Andrew Adimola. The elders, who included the Anglican bishop of northern Uganda, Dr Benson Ogwal-Obwang, said during the last few days Okello was in the areas he looked humble. They said Mr Museveni would win many hearts if Basilio was also pardoned like Tito Okello.

But President Museveni turned this down, saying it would be disastrous for the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government if criminals were also granted amnesties. Mr Museveni said there was evidence that Basilio shot dead 27 people around Kampala in 1980. What could I tell the relatives of those people if I grant Basilio an amnesty?

He said although Basilio and his men had fled the country to Sudan, he would seek their extradition from there. They are kidding themselves if they think they will escape from us, he said.

Gulu Town is still deserted and many of its residents are still hiding in the bush for fear of the NRA.

CAMEROON

Biya Receives Equatorial Guinea, CAR Ministers

AB142205 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] There were two diplomatic ceremonies this afternoon at the Unity Palace. The first audience was granted by Head of State Paul Biya to Equatorial Guinean Finance Minister Mr Inestroca Felipe, who came to deliver a message to President Biya from his counterpart, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

The second ceremony was an occasion for the CAR special envoy to deliver to the president of the Republic a message addressed to him by President Andre Kolingba. Answering questions from the press, Lieutenant Colonel Christophe Grelombe, the CAR minister of interior, declared that relations between his country and Gabon are excellent, natural, and dynamic. He, moreover, expressed his appreciation for the announcement on the holding of a meeting between President Hissein Habre of Chad and the main leader of the opposition, Mr Goukouni Oueddei.

CHAD

Diouf Announces Meeting of Chad Factions

AU141315 Vienna DIE PRESS in German 14 Mar 86 p 2

[Special *DIE PRESSE* report by "Chi"]

[Text] Vienna — it came as a total surprise when Senegal's President Abdou Diouf, who is also chairman of the OAU, announced in Vienna yesterday that the two opponents in the civil war that has been going on in Chad for 20 years have agreed — through OAU mediation — to hold a meeting. "After some time it has become clear that a solution in Chad is only possible by way of an internal agreement between the parties," Diouf said to journalists in Vienna. The meeting between head of government Hissein Habre and rebel leader Goukouni Queddei is to take place "soon" in the Congo and OAU leaders will participate.

Diouf finally expressed satisfaction about the results of his official visit to Austria, the official part of which was thus concluded. It was agreed to further develop bilateral relations in the economic and cultural fields, Diouf said. Furthermore, the socialist head of state praised Austria's policy of neutrality, "of which I was able to learn very much."

In his function as OAU chairman, he also seized the opportunity to draw attention to the necessity of harsh economic sanctions against South Africa. He warned that further delay would lead to an exacerbation of the conflict and to hatred, which would make a peaceful solution impossible.

After a stay in Salzburg, which is mainly dedicated to cultural aspects, Diouf will conclude his official visit today, Friday.

Fada Demonstration Supports GUNT, Oueddei

AB132000 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Three thousand people have taken part in a large popular demonstration in Fada. The demonstrators and militants have condemned the French and American imperialist armed intervention in a domestic conflict in Chad. The Fada militant inhabitants, on the occasion, expressed their unflinching support to the Transitional National Union Government and to its president, the leader of the Chadian revolution, Comrade Goukouni Oueddei.

ZAIRE

Kengo Wa Dondo Interviewed by Belgian Paper

PM131622 Brussels LE SOIR in French 11 Mar 86 pp 1,3

[Interview with Zairian First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo by Pierre Lefevre in Brussels — date not given, first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] Zairian First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo arrived in Brussels Sunday morning to chair, with Mr Martens, his Belgian counterpart, a meeting of top-level political representatives from countries friendly to Zaire and from big international financial institutions — a meeting that will be held this Monday and Tuesday.

At a time when Paris has become the traditional venue for meetings between Zaire and its creditors, we asked Kengo wa Dondo, during an exclusive interview, why Brussels had been chosen and why Belgium had been asked to co-chair this unusual meeting.

[Kengo wa Dondo] Paris is the venue for meetings of the Paris Club and the World Bank consultative group, in other words, established institutions. The Brussels summit should give Zaire an opportunity to make its creditors aware of the problems it faces after 3 years of stabilization measures.

This is not the first time that Zaire has chosen Belgium as host country. We have chosen Brussels deliberately. We could just as well have chosen Washington, Paris, or another capital. There is no need to demonstrate the special relations that exist between Zaire and Belgium, and we considered that Belgium knew more about our problems. Second, Belgium agreed to host this meeting and co-chair it.

[Lefevre] Some opposition deputies are still being held in Zaire. Do you not think that Zaire's human rights policy may sometimes be a handicap in its relations with some Western countries, including Belgium?

[Kengo wa Dondo] We should call them former deputies....

[Lefevre] Let us call them opposition politicians....

[Kengo wa Dondo] Let's say they are oppositionists. The Zairian Constitution institutionalizes the People's Revolutionary Movement, which means that there cannot be any other political party unless that Constitution is revised. Those who attempted to form a political party would therefore be contravening this Constitution.

Should Zaire's political structures function in the same way as the country with which it is cooperating? Do you function in that way, or do you ask your partners, like Eastern bloc countries, South Africa, or others to function like you? If they do not are you unable to cooperate with them? We say: If you want to cooperate with us, see us as we are and treat us as we want to be not, as you would like us to be.

Optimism

[Lefevre] In view of the continual depreciation of the zaire and the growing tension on the money market, should we conclude that Zaire has reached the acceptable limits of its restrictive monetary policy and could not tolerate an increased austerity effort?

[Kengo wa Dondo] It is true that at one stage in 1985 the value of the zaire was eroded fairly rapidly. I would like to point out that, since 12 September 1983, the zaire has been floating and gaining in value day by day according to the law of supply and demand. So we have not devalued the zaire since 1983. Either it has grown stronger or it has dropped to the level of the interbank market, which is fixed each Friday.

In 1985, there was a general drop in the price of raw materials on the world market. Since the Zairian economy is outward-looking, our income from exports has fallen and we have no longer been able to meet internal demand. This is what has led to our currency's slide. The parallel market follows the official market, and the gap between them should not exceed approximately 10 percent. And we are still within this figure.

Of course this raises budgetary problems, particularly for an indebted country that has to meet commitments in foreign currency. Thus, 1985 was a very difficult year for us. We ended 1984 with an inflation rate of 18 percent. We are ending 1985 with a rate of 39 percent.

But 1986 is starting with better prospects. The zaire is growing stronger on the interbank market thanks to three important factors: the price of coffee, the fall in the value of the dollar, and the spectacular fall in the price of oil products. This now enables us to view the future with a great deal of optimism.

Not Without a Boost

[Lefevre] What was your practical objective in proposing this Brussels meeting?

[Kengo wa Dondo] Since 1983, we have tried to halt the deterioration in Zaire's economic, financial, and monetary situation. At first we tried to do so alone. Later with the IMF's help. For 3 years we made enormous sacrifices in the framework of the restoration of fundamental stability. When we calculate everything we have paid in interest on the debt and what we have received from the international institutions and in our bilateral relations, we find that the net transfer of capital is negative. We therefore want to show our partners that, while pursuing its policy of recovery, stringency, austerity, and stabilization, Zaire can no longer do so without a boost to the economy. We would like to ask our creditors who have benefited from these efforts made by Zaire to keep their promises, to understand now that they should help Zaire to start a recovery and improve its production apparatus so that it can produce more, export more, and pay its debt more effectively.

[Lefevre] What kind of practical measures do you expect and for what kind of recovery policy?

[Kengo wa Dondo] The Brussels meeting is not part of the traditional structures. Our fundamental aim is to succeed in making our partners aware of the situation, either in the framework of a rescheduling over several years, in the framework of bilateral assistance, or in other forms, like the modification of interest rates to mobilize the necessary resources for financing the 5-year plan.

What Kind of Investment From Belgium?

[Lefevre] Before you leave you will have a meeting on Wednesday with the leaders of the Federation of Belgian Enterprises. Does this mean you think the private sector should play a special role?

[Kengo wa Dondo] We would have like the Belgian private sector to be in the forefront of those investing in Zaire. Of all our partners the Belgians are the ones who know our country and its resources best.

[Lefevre] Do you think Belgium's attitude will determine what the other countries do?

[Kengo wa Dondo] I would say that Belgium could, if it wished, motivate the others by explaining the reasons for the problem.

[Lefevre] What has happened with regard to the plans to provide Zaire with its own copper refining capability?

[Kengo wa Dondo] At one time, it was agreed that Belgium was to provide finance for the Zairian copper refining plant via the Generale group. But nothing seems to have been done yet. Do you believe that Belgium has done much in any field with regard to investment since 30 June 1960? Belgium is more frequently disappointed to discover that others have stolen its market by investing in its stead. If we look around us those who used to be regarded as the administrative authorities have elsewhere made the most of the countries that they used to administer. Since our country's independence, Belgium has retained its first place among foreign countries in Zaire with regard to business. But has its investments since independence justified its remaining in the forefront? I believe not....

Tunisian Envoy Urges Stronger Economic Ties

AB141258 Dakar PANA in French 1025 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 13 March (AZAP/PANA) — Zaire and Tunisia intend to strengthen their relations in the field of economic cooperation said Abdulkrim Moussa, the Tunisian ambassador to Zaire, following the meeting he held on Tuesday with Tuma

Waku Dia Bazika, secretary general at the Zairian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

According to Mr Moussa, Tunisia offers scholarships to the Zairian Government each year within the framework of the cultural cooperation existing between the two countries for the training of Zairian cadres at the university level and in the field of tourism. Some blind Zairians are currently training in Tunis. Relations between Zaire and Tunisia, he noted, are excellent, friendly, and fraternal.

The Zambian ambassador to Zaire, who was also received by Tuma Waku, said that Zaire and Zambia are two brotherly countries with a common border. It is normal, he added, for leaders of both countries to hold regular meetings on matters of common interest.

Chinese Trade Union Delegation Visits

AB132110 Kinsahsa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] A delegation of the National Federation of Chinese Workers had been in the capital since yesterday. The 4-member delegation is led by the deputy secretary of the federation, Wang Xun. He indicated that his delegation came to learn from the Zairian experience in the field of trade unionism, and also to strengthen the cooperation already existing between the two workers movements.

Three courtesy calls have been planned for the visit of the Chinese delegation. It will meet the first deputy chairman of the MPR Central Committee, the first state commissioner, and the MPR regional chairman and governor of Kinshasa. The Chinese delegation will leave the country on Monday.

Mobutu Signs Ordinance Dissolving Religious Sect

AB141021 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1300 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 13 March (AZAP) — The MPR founding chairman and President of the Republic Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, has just signed an ordinance dissolving the religious sect "the Jehovah's Witnesses," whose activities threaten law and order.

AZAP Official To Attend Havana Press Meeting

AB151100 Dakar PANA in French 1024 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 15 Mar (AZAP/PANA) — Landu Lusala Kusha, deputy managing director of AZAP [ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY], left Kinshasa on Thursday for Havana where he will take part in the fourth general conference of the press agencies of Nonaligned Countries from 17 to 22 March. Zaire, through AZAP, represents Central Africa within the coordination committee of the pool of press agencies of the Nonaligned countries. The third general conference, it is recalled, took place in Belgrade in March 1984.

BURKINA FASO

Sankara Receives DPRK Envoy, Defense Pact Head

AB131920 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR]and president of Burkina Faso, Captain Thomas Sankara, received successively this morning the DPRK ambassador (Yi Tae-kyu) and the secretary general of ANAD [Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement]. Speaking to Jeanne Coulibaly of national television and Joseph Nikiema of the Radio Broadcasting Service, the DPRK ambassador, after expressing his satisfaction at being received by the comrade president, recalled the socioeconomic projects that his country intends to execute in Burkina Faso within the framework of bilateral cooperation.

[Begin (Yi) recording in Korean followed by Frenchtranslation] As you know, last year Comrade President Thomas Sankara paid a visit to Korea, and some protocol agreements were signed during this visit. The agreements provided for many things, including our participation in the development of education as well as other sectors. It was also decided to send experts and technicians to help in various sectors. [End recording]

According to the North Korean diplomat, all these projects will be implemented very soon thanks to the candid, friendly, and fraternal relations existing between our two peoples.

The second personality to be received by the president of Burkina Faso was the ANAD secretary general, General Jean Gomis.

[Begin recording] [Gomis] I had the honor of being received by President Sankara, head of state of Burkina Faso and current chairman of the conference of heads of state and government of ANAD. It was an occasion for the ANAD secretary general to render an account of the preparations for the upcoming ministerial council meeting as well as the conference of heads of state which will take place in Ouagadougou at the end of March. All documents which should be examined at the ministerial level and at the level of the heads of state are ready. The secretary general is also ready concerning the material and intellectual preparation. We noted with much satisfaction that at the level of Burkina Faso everything has been done to ensure that these conferences take place in the best of conditions.

[Coulibaly] Mr Secretary General, we know that Benin is participating as an observer in all the meetings of the higher bodies of ANAD, namely the conference of heads of state and government and the ministerial council meeting. Am I being indiscreet if I ask you what are the impressions of Benin?

[Gomis] It is not an indiscretion, no. This is a question that everyone asks, including me. Unfortunately, I do not know of state secrets, I am not at the level of the heads of state to know what Benin intends to do. As far as I am concerned, I believe it will be a very good thing for Benin to integrate into the ANAD family, since this country as already integrated into the CEAO [West African Economic Community]. Therefore, if Benin becomes a member of the ANAD family, naturally, the family will grow larger. The more members we have, the stronger we become. As Benin is a friendly country, a country in the subregion, I believe it will be excellent for her to join us. Unity is strength, and we hope that Benin will not hesitate for too long before joining us to build something together. [End recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Leaves for Palme Funeral in Sweden

AB141414 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, left Accra this morning for Stockholm to attend the funeral of Mr Olof Palme, former Prime Minister of Sweden. He was accompanied by Dr Kwesi Botchway, secretary for finance and economic planning, and officials of the PNDC Secretariat and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In the absence of the chairman, Mr Justice D.F. Annan will act as chairman of the PNDC.

GUINEA

Guinean Information Minister Reportedly Resigns

AB161931 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Things are not going well any longer within the Guinean Government. Jean-Claude Diallo, who was up till now minister delegate in the Presidency in charge of information and culture, is reported to have tendered his resignation yesterday. He is reported to be protesting against the corrupt and unscrupulous business dealings of the present leadership in Guinea. Before his appointment as minister, Mr Diallo had served as secretary of state in charge of Guineans abroad. In this capacity, he is said to have brought about the appointment into the latest governemnt of a number of former political exiles. His resignation is a big blow to the image of General Lansana Conte's regime.

According to latest reports, Mr Diallo is now in the Federal Republic of Germany.

LIBERIA

More Than 1,000 Teachers Begin 'Indefinite' Strike

AB150916 Paris AFP in English 0820 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 15 (AFP) — More than 1,000 schoolteachers here have begun an "indefinite" strike in protest against the government's failure for two months to pay them salaries and transport allowances.

A teachers' spokesman said a school official had appealed to them to return to work while he took up the matter with the government, but the teachers had refused the offer. The teachers are also demanding exemption from an all-round 25 percent salary cut announced by President Samuel Doe last year to offset economic losses caused by an abortive coup against his regime last November. The teachers said they had resorted to striking because of "the continuous deterioration in our professional and personal conditions."

Education Minister Othello Gongar said they should work to establish a strong channel of communication with the ministry instead of engaging in actions that would hamper the country's educational system. Teachers and other government employees also went on strike last year for payment of salary arrears.

NIGERIA

Newspaper, Advertisement Price Hikes Approved

AB141900 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The Federal Government has approved 30 kobo as the new cover price for Nigerian newspapers. Advertisement rates in the newspapers, radio, television, and outdoor media have also been increased by 5 percent. The increases, which become effective as from the first of next month, have a 3-year moratorium within which to operate.

SENEGAL

Senegal To Receive Japanese Financial Assistance

AB151014 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A financial agreement for a Japanese subsidy of about 754 million CFA francs was signed today by Economy and Finance Minister Mamadou Toure and (Haitaka Oshima), acting charge d'affaires at the Japanese embassy in Senegal. This subsidy will help finance an important development project in the fishing industry along the coast. It will also be used to purchase and to transport to Senegal outboard motors, vehicles, and other equipment necessary for the project.

ANGOLA

UNITA Releases Hostages Taken in Andrada 1 Mar

HK170130 Hong Kong AFP in English 0121 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 17 (AFP) — Angolan guerrillas who seized 150 foreigners at a diamond mine two weeks ago have turned their prisoners over to the Red Cross, Portuguese television reported Sunday night.

The report said Portugal had specifically been informed about the liberation of 90 Portuguese hostages from the group captured by UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which is backed by South Africa in its bush war against the Marxist regime in Luanda. The 150 foreigners also included a large number of Filipinos and some Europeans, and about 10 had earlier been reported to have escaped.

Portuguese TV said the freed prisoners were being taken northward by the Red Cross to Kinshasa, the capital of neighboring Zaire.

UNITA had originally said its captives would be marched 2,000 kms (1,200 miles) south to the guerrillas' headquarters at Jamba before negotiations would begin for their release. The march faced serious logistic problems in the face of difficult terrain and possible attacks by government forces.

UNITA, in a Saturday communique released here Sunday night, said Angolan troops had indeed attacked the guerrilla force escorting the prisoners but had been driven off. The date of the attack, near Chicapa in Lunda Province, was not given.

UNITA said in that statement, which was signed by its leader Jonas Savimbi, that all the prisoners were "safe and sound and in good health." It did not, however, mention plans to free the captives or send them to Zairean territory.

When it first captured the foreign workers at Andrada, Angola's largest diamond-mining complex, UNITA had said the Portuguese and Filipinos would be released first as a salute to Portugal's new president, socialist Mario Soares, and the "return of the democratic process" to the Philippines.

Reports Foiled Hostage Ambush

LD170147 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0100 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Excerpt] UNITA has just announced the failure of the Angolan Government troops' attempt to ambush the detachment of Savimbi's troops guarding 150 foreigners kidnapped in Andrada 2 weeks ago.

UNITA says in a communique that the chief of staff of the government forces, Franca Ndalo, planned to attack the UNITA column and the foreign hostages near the locality of Chikapa, but the rebel movement claims to have foiled the plan by taking evasive action.

The communique, signed by Jonas Savimbi, is dated 15 March. Besides repeating the appeal on foreigners to leave Angola because (?it is) a war zone, it states that nevertheless UNITA knows how to deal humanely with those whom it captures.

Savimbi's movement is critical of the Portuguese section of the BBC for referring to the FALA [UNITA Army] soldiers in an insulting manner. The communique says that the hostages are in good health and denies that any of those in the column have escaped.

This communique has come to light a few hours after reports from Zaire to the effect that the foreigners held by UNITA had been released in that country. These reports were also denied yesterday [Sunday] afternoon in Lisbon by UNITA, which reiterated the intention of proceeding southward with the hostages en route to the movement's central bases. However, a spokesman said that UNITA intends to release the hostages in the very near future.

Hostages in Zaire, Await Transport

LD162009 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] We have just received a report from ANOP in Geneva saying that about 200 hostages captured by UNITA at Andrada, Angola, are in Zaire. Information from international sources says that the hostages of eight nationalities are awaiting their evacuation. There are 94 Portuguese among the hostages.

A few minutes ago Prime Minister Cavaco Silva said that a Portuguese civilian aircraft would be sent to Kinshasa to pick up the hostages freed by UNITA. He added that he did not know when the plane would leave nor whether it would transport the Portuguese hostages only. International sources say that it could transport Portuguese and Filipinos.

According to ANOP UNITA declared that the release of the Portuguese and Filipinos is unconditional in honor of Mario Soares and Corazon Aquino.

UNITA Reports 64 Cuban, Government Troops Killed

MB141852 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1800 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Angolan rebels are claiming new successes against government forces. In a communique issued in Lisbon, the UNITA movement said it has overrun a government position at Cavinda on the west coast in Benguala Province.

It says it has killed 64 Cuban and government soldiers, and has shot down two MI-8 helicopters. UNITA says the casualties were inflicted in fighting in several provinces last week. It says it lost 9 of its own fighters killed and 17 wounded in the clashes.

3 Helicopters Shot Down

MB151300 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0915 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The Angolan UNITA movement says it has killed 61 Angolan government troops and 3 Cubans in fighting in 5 provinces. A spokesman for UNITA in Lisbon said the movement had also shot down three helicopters in the province of Bie.

UK Undersecretary Visits, Meets With Mbinda

MB111344 Luanda ANGOP in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Luanda, 11 Mar (ANGOP) — Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Angolan minister of external relations, held talks in Luanda today with Ewen Fergusson, the British undersecretary of state for African affairs, who has been in Luanda since Saturday.

According to a source from the Angolan Ministry of External Relations, the two men discussed bilateral relations, the situation in southern Africa, and Namibia's independence after the latest developments, such as the communique issued by the Angolan Government last Saturday and the statement made by Pieter Botha, the leader of the Pretoria minority regime.

Ewen Fergusson will leave Luanda today.

BOTSWANA

Masire Leaves for Palme Funeral in Sweden

MB131709 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, left Gaborone for Stockholm, Sweden, this afternoon where he will attend the funeral of the assassinated Swedish prime minister, Olof Palme, on Saturday. Dr Masire was seen off at the airport by the first lady, Mrs Gladys Masire, the chief justice, Mr O'Brien-Quinn; the minister of works and communications, Mr Colin Blackbeard; the leader of the opposition, Dr Kenneth Koma; and some members of the diplomatic corps. The president will later be joined by the minister of external affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe. Both Dr Masire and Dr Chiepe are expected back home on Monday.

LESOTHO

Further on Ramotsekhoane's Death in Hospital

MB141652 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The former deputy commander of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force, Brigadier Ramotsekhoane, died at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Maseru on Saturday 8th of this month.

Mr Ramotsekhoane had been detained for questioning at the police headquarters in Maseru on Saturday morning, and shortly after his arrival he showed signs of illness. He was then rushed to the hospital, where he died.

The next of kin have been informed, and the commissioner of police, Major General S.R. Matela, has ordered a post mortem, and investigations into his death are continuing.

Lekhanya Interviewed on ANC Numbers, Ties With RSA

MB131740 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Lesotho Military Council of Ministers, His Excellency Major General Metsing Lekhanya, says that an atmosphere of internal peace, tranquility, and political stability is a prerequisite for a stable economic climate within which both local and foreign investors may risk their capital, and it is also essential for the tourist industry. And now that Lesotho has this kind of atmosphere, it is expected that tourism from South Africa and elsewhere will flourish.

Maj Gen Lekhanya said this in Maseru today in an interview with the SABC television team. He reiterated that the people of Lesotho were never hostile to foreign businessmen, and even to a less extent to tourists. As regards the presence and numbers of ANC cadres in Lesotho, and as regards the country being used as a spring board for attacks on South Africa, he said that the new government of Lesotho does not intend to continue relations with South Africa in the manner the former government conducted them. That government, he said, lied about many things, including numbers of ANC cadres at any given time.

Maj Gen Lekhanya stressed that it was up to South Africa to believe the new government because it is sincere in its policy of relations with South Africa. He added that if the ANC attacked South Africa from Lesotho soil, and without the knowledge of the government, this would be a great betrayal to Basotho and not just the government.

Maj Gen Lekhanya pointed out that the ANC cadres who have left Lesotho since the military came to power did so voluntarily, and it is sincerely hoped that they would continue to do so for their own and the country's safety. Lesotho, he added, has already held discussions with the ANC in Lusaka on the security of the Basotho vis a vis the presence of the ANC cadres on Lesotho soil, as well as the safety of the ANC cadres themselves. He said Lesotho would continue to receive the refugees but will ensure that it is not used as a spring board for attacks against South Africa.

On the question of the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa, the chairman of the Military Council said no Lesotho government would support or encourage such sanctions, as they would affect Lesotho as well. However, Lesotho hopes that South Africa would move fast towards the dismantling of apartheid so that sanctions would remain behind. In reply to another question, Maj Gen Lekhanya repeated that the government is continuing its search for and confiscating weapons from a number of persons and groups, including the BNP [Basotho National Party] youth league of the former government, and the campaign is successful. He added that the youth league used the arms to commit murder, robberies, and all sorts of crimes, and the previous government openly condoned these acts.

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR Reportedly Kidnaps Two Nuns in North

AU161758 Paris AFP in English 1751 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Lisbon, March 16 (AFP) — Rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance have kidnapped two nuns — a Portuguese and an Italian — in northern Mozambique, the NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL news agency reported Sunday.

The agency said the two nuns, identified as Maria da Piedada Figueiredo and Alma Maria Lomboni, were seized on Friday at Cava in Memba District on the Indian Ocean coast in the north of the country. It gave no further details of the kidnapping.

Reportage on Machel's Latest Activities

Meets With U.S.'s Wisner

MB130555 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] The U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Frank Wisner, left Maputo today after talks with the Mozambican authorities on bilateral and regional issues. Mr Wisner told reporters shortly before leaving that he had a helpful meeting with President Samora Machel and Mozambican Governemnt ministers. He said he had informed the Mozambican leader about President Ronald Reagan's wishes and U.S. intentions to be an active party in seeking peace in southern Africa in general.

However, Mr Wisner declined to comment on U.S. support for the UNITA terrorist group in Angola, saying only that the United States policy is to bring peace to the western part of southern Africa. He said this means independence for Namibia and a reduction or an end to violence in Angola as well as the withdrawal of Cuban troops from that country.

Mr Wisner left Maputo for South Africa whose minority government insists on the linkage of Namibian freedom to Cuban troops in Angola. Mozambique and other Frontline States have rejected the linkage.

Receives UK Undersecretary

MB131807 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Ewen Fergusson, the British undersecretary of state for African and Middle East Affairs in the Foreign Office, was in Maputo today and was received by President Samora Machel. Discussed during the meeting with the Mozambican head of state were issues connected with bilateral cooperation and the situation in southern Africa. Fergusson left for South Africa this afternoon.

Leaves for Palme Funeral 14 Mar

MB141750 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] President Samora Machel left Maputo for Stockholm this evening to attend the funeral of former Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme. The Mozambican delegation includes Armando Guebuza, minister in the presidency, and Antonio Branco, minister of industry and energy.

Olof Palme's funeral will be held tomorrow. The ceremony will be attended by representatives of more than 100 countries and international organisations, including the secretary general of the United Nations.

USSR Ambassador Presents Clothing, Goods Donation

MB120558 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] The USSR has donated a gift to our country, estimated at some U.S. $3 million. The gift of clothing and consumer goods is designed to support the agricultural trading campaign in the Niassa, Nampula, Cabo Delgado, and Zambezia Provinces. The gift was presented during a ceremony held at Nacala port in Nampula Province, which was attended by Minister of Internal Trade Aranda da Silva and Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Sepelev. Part of the gift is due to arrive in Nacala shortly.

Commentary Criticizes U.S. Support for UNITA

MB131254 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] This week, heads of state of Mozambique and Cape Verde publicly condemned the decision by the U.S. Administration to provide financial assistance to the UNITA puppet group in Angola. They also condemned the red carpet welcome given to Jonas Savimbi on his visit to Washington. The condemnation was expressed in a joint communique issued at the end of a visit to Mozambique by President Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde.

President Pereira and President Samora Machel described the U.S. support for UNITA as an attack on the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola and they noted that Washington's decision is in complete defiance of the OAU.

Washington has been criticized in the past by the OAU, but it is hard to think of a U.S. decision which has drawn such unanimous African condemnation. The reasons for this are not hard to find. First, UNITA and its leader Jonas Savimbi helped the Portuguese fascists against the Angolan Liberation Movement during that country's war for national independence. Second, since the defeat of Portugese colonialism, Savimbi's men have operated openly as an extension of the South African Armed Forces. Third, UNITA is a terrorist organization and proof of this is not hard to provide. Recently, for example, on the orders from South Africa, Savimbi's gunmen kidnapped more 100 foreign workers in Angola. These three points are fundamental for the OAU. The member-states disagree with each other over many things, but they are united against collaborators with colonialism, puppets of South Africa and out-and-out terrorists.

The U.S. Administration, to its credit, has condemned the apartheid regime, but the African governments want strong U.S. action as well as words against South Africa. Instead, we have a spectacle of the U.S. Administration offering to provide South Africa's hired gunmen with millions of dollars worth of weaponry to fight an African government. Africa today is looking at the United States with all its democratic traditions as a power which puts all its national interests above the democratic rights of the peoples of Namibia and Angola.

Washington has, of course, a phobia about Cuban troops in Angola, but Africans see these Cubans as a force against the resumption of white racist rule in Angola. U.S. support for Savimbi, on the other hand, is seen as support for racism and terrorism.

NAMIBIA

Hiemestra Sees Signs of Consensus on Constitution

MB131020 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1002 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 13, SAPA — There were signs of broad consensus on important aspects of a constitution for SWA/Namibia among parties represented in the transitional government, the constitutional council chairman, Mr Justice Victor Hiemstra, said in Windhoek today.

He said in a statement the next step would be for the council to adjourn to enable him to prepare a draft for submission to the council as a basis for discussion.

Mr Justice Hiemstra's statement came amid reports that the parties had agreed in principle on the abolition of SWA/Namibia's controversial Proclamation AG8, which provides for the institution of second-tier ethnic authorities.

The constitutional council's progress report to the transitional governemnt was the main reason that the SWA/Namibian National Assembly adjourned yesterday until April 8, political sources reported today. A standing committee of the assembly would give immediate consideration to the constitutional proposals, they said.

The political groupings represented in the transitional government are the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, the Labour Party, the Rehoboth Free Democratic Party, a SWA National Union Group, the SWA National Party, and SWAPO-Democrats.

SOUTH AFRICA

Du Plessis Introduces Budget to Parliament Session

Says Economy in Upward Phase

MB171007 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1003 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 17, SAPA — The South African economy was in the early stages of a new upward phase of the business cycle, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis said today.

Introducing his budget at a joint session of Parliament, he said the upswing had begun from a relatively low base in the fourth quarter of last year, following a downswing from the middle of 1984 until the third quarter of 1985. The new upswing was expected to gain momentum as the year progressed, he said.

During 1985, as a whole, the real Gross Domestic Product had shown a decline of about one per cent, compared to an increase of five per cent in the previous year.

"But it began to rise moderately during the second half of 1985 and is expected to increase further by more than three per cent in 1986."

Responding to a combination of tight monetary and fiscal policies and natural economic forces, real gross domestic expenditure declined during five of the six quarters between the middle of 1984 and the end of 1985.

Following a rise of 7.5 per cent in 1984 it declined by a similar magnitude in 1985.

A welcome development last year had been an increase in the ratio of gross domestic saving to gross domestic product, from 23 per cent in 1984 to 26.5 per cent in 1985.

"Personal savings made a significant contribution to this increase, rising from 3.5 per cent to six per cent of personal disposable income and I shall return to this welcome development and how it may be reinforced."

Unemployment had increased substantially during 1985 but was expected to decline during the current year.

The increase in nominal salaries and wages per employee slowed down from 16.4 per cent in 1984 to 11.1 per cent in 1985.

"After allowing for inflation, real rumuneration per employee increased by 4.2 percent in 1984, but then declined by 4.4 per cent in 1985", the minister said.

Discusses Foreign Debt Standstill

MB171041 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1040 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] South Africa could only regain foreign bank credit once it could convince international bankers it no longer needed them, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today. Dealing with the country's foreign debt standstill during his budget speech, he said that in order to convince bankers they were no longer needed, a tight rein on spending and increased saving was required.

"We are not underestimating the formidable problem of re-entry to the international money and capital markets," he said.

"In particular we realise that the present situation calls for even more financial discipline from us all.

"We shall be able to persuade the international bankers to return to South Africa only if we can convince them that we actually do not need them anymore.

"To that end there must be a tight rein on our spending programs and our domestic savings must be sufficient to finance our development projects, as indeed was often the case in recent years," the minister said.

This great task in fact formed part of the objectives of the budget he was submitting today. He said South Africa owed Dr Fritz Leutwiler a debt of gratitude for the role he had played as mediator with the foreign bankers.

South Africa and all its peoples had paid "a stiff price" for the economic adjustments of the past year. The GDP had fallen, unemployment had risen sharply while average real wages and salaries had fallen. In the process South African undertakings were badly hit with many small businesses going into liquidation.

"It is regrettable that precisely under these circumstances of painful downward adjustment, certain foreign banks saw fit to insist on speedier repayment of their short-term loans to our banking sector," Mr du Plessis said.

Strict U.S.-imposed controls on IMF loans to South Africa and political pressure from other governments made it difficult to look for help from that quarter.

South Africa had repaid R8 billion in short term foreign debt during the seven quarters from the beginning of 1984 to the third quarter in 1985. Unfortunately in the process the reserve bank was unable to rebuild its foreign reserves.

"It is ironic that at a time when the South African population had been making great economic sacrifices in order to reduce the total debt of the country, foreign creditors made further demands.

"In the circumstances there was no choice but unilaterally to declare on 1 September 1985 a temporary standstill in the repayment of certain foreign debt," Mr du Plessis said.

A large surplus on the current account had made it possible, under those difficult circumstances, to leave about 40 per cent of the country's foreign debt commitments outside the standstill net and also to pay in full all interest on foreign debt.

'Moderate' Stimulation Needed

MB171054 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1042 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 17, SAPA — This year the economy needed moderate stimulation by the authorities, with the accent on moderate, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

Stating this in his introductory remarks to his budget, Mr du Plessis said the scope created by last year's sacrifices for South Africa as a country was constrained by the republic's obligation to repay part of its foreign debt, without the prospect of significant further loans from that quarter.

"But even after this there is still some latitude for higher expenditures."

Last year's claims on the social front were great. This year they were still greater. The medicine needed by the economy last year was a restrictive budget and state expenditure therefore had to be cut as far as possible, despite the need then already evident.

"But at that stage the economy could simply not carry larger expenditure", Mr du Plessis said.

As far as claims to social upliftment and of the need for upgrading of security services were concerned, the government remained acutely aware of its responsibility.

"The government adheres to the view that economic development in South Africa must be based on the principle of private property and private initiative and that this base needs to be broadened.

"Markets should, through effective competition, play the leading role in this process. The government itself must as far as possible limit its direct role in total economic activity to those functions where the market mechanism is not able to deliver the results sought."

Mr du Plessis said that as the budget was aimed primarily at the needs of the people of South Africa it gained support from the following three considerations:

— It was just and right both to extend a helping hand to those finding the going hard and to seek to relieve those suffering the pain and humiliation of unemployment;

— Constitutional structures in developing communities could not be established, or even meaningfully negotiated, without supportive economic upliftment. Africa had shown that political freedom could not be sustained while shackled in the chains of poverty; and

— The ultimate choice between economic, social and, most of all, political systems was made on the ground of the system's capability to spread its benefits as justly and widely as possible, Mr du Plessis said.

Policy 'Moderately Expansionary'

MB171129 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1117 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, Mar 17, SAPA — The government's short-term monetary and fiscal policy was aimed at encouraging investment and consumer spending to ensure a growth rate of at least three per cent, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

Delivering his speech, he described the new short-term policy as "moderately expansionary."

"It is a policy of encouraging investment and consumer spending in order to ensure that the new upswing gains enough momentum to produce a growth rate of three per cent or more in real Gross Domestic Product in 1986, with the attendant increases in income, output, employment and general economic acitivity."

The policy was, however, also designed to prevent the re-emergence of excess demand or overspending.

"The achievement of this objective is important not only to avoid new demand inflation but also to ensure that another large surplus is achieved in 1986 on the current account of the balance of payments, as part and parcel of our strategy for dealing with the foreign debt situation."

Mr du Plessis said it was probable that the inflation rate would remain high in the months ahead.

"But now that the rand has not only ceased to depreciate but has, in fact, appreciated strongly against other currenceis, the inflationary effects of the earlier depreciation should begin to diminish before too long."

The minister said monetary and fiscal policy had become progressively less restrictive over the past year as progress was made in reducing excess demand.

"Although the economy is in the early phase of a new upswing, the present, more growth-oriented stance of monetary and fiscal policy does not in any way imply a weakening of the official resolve to curb inflation."

Discusses 1985 Budget Achievements

MB171044 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1036 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 17, SAPA — Apart from the "serious setback" suffered on the inflation front, the short-term fiscal and monetary strategy outlined in last year's budget had been implemented and the intended results had been achieved, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said today.

The first objective of the strategy was to eliminate excess demand or overspending, and the second had been to transform the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments into a surplus, he said in his introduction to the 1986/87 budget.

"It is gratifying to be able to report that considerable progress has been made ... both these objectives have been fully attained and also sooner than anticipated," Mr du Plessis said.

The contribution made by monetary policy (money management) was well illustrated by the extent to which the growth of the money supply was curbed during 1985.

"Measured over a 12-month period, the growth rate of M3 (the broad money supply) decelerated from a peak of 24.1 per cent in November 1984 to 10.3 per cent in January 1986."

When it came to interest rates, the reserve bank has reduced its bank rate since the beginning of May 1985, in nine stages, from 21.75 per cent to its present level of 12 per cent.

"This has helped to bring down the commercial bank's prime overdraft rate from 25 to 15.5 per cent," the minister said.

The fact these interest rate declines had proved fully reconcilable with effective money supply control was evident from the monetary statistics.

"Even so, the reserve bank's decision to let interest rates fall to the extent they did was not taken lightly."

Full consideration had been given to the existence during most of this period of a net capital outflow, the debt standstill, a relatively weak exchange rate and a high rate of inflation.

"The official assessment was that this state of affairs was not the result of excess demand; indeed, the latter had been eliminated by the middle of 1985."

By September, 1985, it had however become apparent that increasing levels of unemployment in all communities called for urgent action, and it had been decided to stimulate the economy moderately with increased government expenditure, among others.

"This change of emphasis in policy allowed progress to be made towards another important objective, namely a higher real rate of economic growth ... the upswing has begun and the real growth rate is rising."

A fourth objective of the short term policy was to reduce the rate of inflation, but it had been emphasised in last year's budget this could only be expected to happen after it had first increased further.

"Such an acceleration was inevitable as the depreciation of the rand against other currencies during the period September 1983 to January 1985 had not yet exerted its full upward effect on domestic costs and prices.

"It was nevertheless hoped the rate of increase would peak before the end of 1985 and then begin to decline."

The new depreciation of the rand since the third quarter of 1985 had, however, represented a setback in the fight against inflation, Mr Du Plessis said.

"Unlike most exchange rate depreciations, this particular one was not caused by excess money creation, unduly low interest rates or an inordinately large budget deficit ... it was caused by an outflow of capital that occurred for totally separate reasons."

In such abnormal circumstances, the maintenance of interest rates at their peak levels of early 1985 would have contributed little to removing the underlying causes of the depreciation and inflation, and would merely have delayed the domestic economic recovery, he said.

The depreciation had raised import prices in terms of the rand, exerting new upward pressure on the domestic price level.

"The end result was that, measured over a twelve-month period, inflation's rate of increase accelerated from 10 per cent in February 1984 to 20.7 per cent in January 1986.

"In retrospect, therefore, it is evident that, apart from the serious setback suffered on the inflation front, the short-term strategy outlined in last year's budget speech has, in fact, been implemented and has achieved the intended results," the minister said.

Excess demand had been eliminated, a larger than anticipated surplus had been achieved on the current account of the balance of payments and the domestic downswing had been transformed into the initial phase of a new upswing.

Reserve Bank To Set Monetary Goals

MB171151 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1045 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, Mar 17, SAPA — The Reserve Bank is to set specific targets for rates of growth in the money supply, the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, announced today. He said in his budget speech that the new measure was being introduced on the recommendation of the De Kock commission of inquiry into monetary policy.

The targets, for one or more of the money supply aggregates, would be set by the reserve bank with the approval of the government. Independent targets could not, however, be set for interest rates or exchange rates, as these rates and the money supply were interdependent.

"As recommended by the commission, however, the official money supply target will be low profile and flexible.

"This means that there will be no rigid and overriding money rule that would imply leaving interest and exchange rates completely free to find their own levels at all times."

Monetary authorities would be able to use some discretion in setting interest and exchange rate policies within the broad constraints imposed by the money target.

Mr du Plessis said a major reason for the introduction of formal monetary targeting was to demonstrate that the monetary authorities were determined to prevent the money supply from again growing too quickly, leading to increased inflation.

The target setting should also provide interested parties with greater certainty over the likely stance and direction of monetary policy.

"This being our first attempt at setting a money target, we shall obviously have to tread carefully.

"We are fully confident that the built-in discipline of money supply targeting will contribute to a more effective financial policy in South Africa," Mr du Plessis said.

Details of the targets and procedures for 1986 would be set out more fully in a reserve bank statement to be issued today.

Mr Du Plessis said the system of asking government departments to supply the department of finance with projections of their monthly drawings for the full financial year would be streamlined and continued this year.

"The cooperation of departments has meant that the new approach has ... healped us significantly in our attempts to restrict the increase in state expenditure to really essential extensions and/or specific expenditure programmes." He said the scheme served as an early warning system for the treasury of over-spending by departments. It also helped departments keep expenditure within the budgeted amount and was a basis for calculating the monthly exchequer deficit and the scheduling of the states financing and borrowing programme.

Mr du Plessis thanked the governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, and the other members of the commission of inquiry into monetary policy for "the precedent-setting task they have pursued with great dedication."

"Their findings and recommendations represent the best available expertise and authority on monetary policy," he said.

Negative Growth Rate for 3 Years Reported

MB131149 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1143 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 13, SAPA — South Africa has had a negative growth rate for three of the past four years — and only a 1.1 per cent increase in the gross domestic product (GDP) between 1981 and 1985.

This growth rate trend will be difficult to reverse because the country's inflation rate is likely to stay above 20 per cent for several months due to the accelerating production price index (PPI).

Figures released by Central Statistical Services today show that the PPI for all commodities rocketed by 22.2 per cent in January compared to January 1985. In December the increase was 21.3 per cent.

The increased PPI is reflected also in the 19.2 per cent increase in all locally produced commodities and a 32.2 per cent increase in imported commodities in January.

Volkskas economist, Mr Adam Jacobs, said what was worrying was that the PPI for both locally manufactured and imported commodities had increased which meant inflation would remain high — above 20 per cent — for a couple of months.

But Mr Jacobs pointed out that the sharp petrol price increase in February last year had pushed up the consumer price index (CPI) so any new measure of the CPI would be from a higher base.

Meanwhile, the low level of economic activity last year is reflected in the drop of 1.5 per cent in the real production of the non-agricultural section, caused mainly by a decrease in domestic demand.

Heunis Says Disinvestment 'Counter-Productive'

MB140940 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0930 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Giyani, March 14, SAPA — It was ironic that while the South African Government was committed to reform, "the international world is pressurising South Africa," the minister of constitutional planning and development, Mr Chris Heunis, said in Giyani today.

Mr Heunis was opening the fifth session of the fourth legislative assembly of Gazankulu.

The international pressure, by means of economic sanctions and disinvestment, was ironic, Mr Heunis said, "because the prospects of peaceful political change are directly linked to the strength of the South African economy." "It is universally accepted that the broadening of democracy places great strain on a country's financial resources.

"Thus the level of economic development and the strength of the economy are major pace-setters for democratic development. They play a crucial role in determining the viability and permanence of democratic processes and institutions.

"Without the prospect of greater material benefits and prosperity for the majority of the population, a democratic system will have little hope of success. And therefore I believe that steps from the outside to reduce the financial and economic capability of South Africa are counter-productive to the other pronouncements, and those are to work towards change," Mr Heunis said.

Much had been said about disinvestment, "but more should be done than just talking about it. The reason for this statement is two-fold:

"In the first instance, disinvestment will affect both South Africa and Gazankulu negatively, as it would hamper economic development and growth.

"In the second instance, both our governments are committed to the principle of political reform and the removal of socio-ecnomic discrimination in South Africa. The promotion of the spiritual and material welfare, that is the improvement of the quality of life of our respective peoples, is a further goal that both governments are striving for."

Mr Heunis said: "We need money in order to attain our respective and joint goals. Therefore, we must fight against disinvestment with all our powers."

Disinvestment in the South Africa meant much more than withdrawal of investments.

"Withdrawal of United States industries from South Africa would affect about 150,000 workers of whom 30,000 are whites. This implies that an estimated 700,000 people are economically dependent on those companies — and most of them are black, the very people whom the activists in the United States claim to help.

"If there is no turn for the better, very soon we will find that far from creating 250,000 jobs annually to create employment for new entrants into the labour market, the number of black-occupied jobs may well decrease.

"With our population growth, the population is likely to double in the next 29 years. We therefore have reason to take a hard look at these facts. We need a growth rate of seven or eight per cent, an upturn in the economy and not disinvestment.

"According to a Human Sciences Research Council projection for the year 2000 — a mere 14 years hence — eight out of 10 skilled jobs will be occupied by blacks and they will progressively form a larger part of the managerial stratum."

Already the consumer power of black communities was roughly the same as that of the white communities in urban areas, Mr Heunis said.

Heunis on 'New System' of Local Government

MB141057 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2054 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 13, SAPA — South Africa is to be divided into thousands of racially and geographically specific local authorities that will replace existing municipalities under the government's new system of local government, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, told the United Municipal Executive [UME] today.

Opening the UME's annual meeting in Cape Town, Mr Heunis said the boundaries of municipalities and divisional councils would be re-drawn in a "scientific" way to create individual local authorities for the different race groups.

Commercial, industrial and residential areas in black, coloured and Indian areas would have to be transferred from white councils to provide the new local authorities with viable tax bases. These new authorities would eventually be grouped together under the various regional services councils, where their voting strength would be calculated according to the amount each spends on services, he said.

Mr Heunis said he had already asked the four provincial administrators to make "tentative" proposals for the demarcation of boundaries for the new councils.

Existing coloured and Indian management committees and black community concils would probably be given control of the various areas until the next municipal elections are held in 1988.

The Cape Town City Council, which has condemned the fragmentation of the municipal area and rejected management committees as "non-representative" is expected to voice strong opposition to new plan.

Buthelezi Seeks U.S. Support for Natal Plan

MB150601 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2319 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, Mar 14, SAPA — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday sought top-level U.S. state support for pressure aimed at persuading President P.W. Botha of the vital national importance of the KwaZulu/Natal proposals put before the government this week.

In a reference to the coming KwaZulu/Natal indaba, he warned that if Mr Botha inhibited further such inter-racial negotiations he would be "fanning the flames of violence."

He was speaking at a meeting here with Congressman Mr John Dellenback, a member of the committee advising U.S. Secretary of State Mr George Schultz on policy towards South Africa.

Dr Dellenback, who is also president of the American coalition of Christian colleges and a former head of the U.S. Peace Corps, was in Durban to attend the KwaZulu chief minister and cabinet's annual prayer breakfast.

Chief Buthelezi said that the proposals which he and Natal administrator Mr Radclyffe Cadman had put before Constitutional Affairs Minister Mr Chris Heunis were aimed at reconciliatory politics in this region. The proposals showed that there were things which could now be negotiated about at the first and second tier levels of government.

In the second phase of the negotiations (at the KwaZulu/Natal indaba which starts on April 3) the scope of negotiations would be extended to seek consensus about a legislative authority which would operate outside the framework of apartheid.

Dr Dellenback would do South Africa a great service if he could mobilise every pressure on Pretoria which would work towards making Mr Botha see the seriousness of the situation he would face if he rejected the proposals now tabled.

"If the state president rejects the progress thus far made and inhibits progress by throwing central government obstacles in our path," Chief Buthelezi said, "he will be fanning the flames of violence."

Earlier Chief Buthelezi told Dr Dellenback the West needed to become more aware of the fact that there were two struggles taking place in South Africa: one against apartheid and the other a struggle for democracy. Western governments and groups too often joined in the struggle against apartheid regardless of whether or not their supportive action tended to move South Africa towards or away from the prospect of finally establishing a meaningful democracy here.

Speaking above the party-political level, he said, it was imperative for the West to support those forces "on the ground in South Africa" which were not only opposing apartheid but doing so in such a way that foundations were laid for a future democratic society.

Against the background of African history he believed it naive to think that reconciliation between black and white was something which could be addressed only after liberation.

If radical change were brought about by violence which brought furhter polarisation, moving the country inexorably towards racial conflagration, national unity would take generations to achieve after the eradication of apartheid.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, needed to address the issues which made black/white negotiations impossible.

"I and other black leaders cannot conceive of negotiations which accept the retention of the present Parliament and of the Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act," Chief Buthelezi said.

Wisner in Cape Town, Cited on Namibia Independence

MB141647 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The American deputy under secretary of state, Mr Frank Wisner, says that independence for South-West Africa and peace in Angola can be secured if all parties concerned put their shoulders to the wheel. Mr Wisner was speaking at a news conference in Cape Town after talks with the South African Government about the implementation of the UN settlement plan for South-West Africa.

Mr Wisner visited several southern African states following President Botha's offer to implement UN Resolution 435 on 1 August if there was a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

Naude, Duncan Open Black Sash Conference

MB150540 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2119 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, Mar 14, SAPA — Dr Beyers Naude, general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said yesterday in Durban that he supported disinvestment and sanctions as a means of putting political pressure on the South African Government, because they were alternatives to violence.

Speaking at the official opening of the Black Sash national conference, Dr Naude said he supported civil disobedience because it was vitally important that whites showed solidarity with blacks. He said the role of Parliament would become increasingly irrelevant and vital decisions affecting the future of the country were being made by pro and anti-government forces outside it.

To loud applause Dr Naude said he supported the resignations from Parliament of Dr van Zyl Slabbert and Dr Alex Borraine.

He said that all black education might close down if negotiations between the government and the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee did not satisfy blacks. Dr Naude said if an education conference at the Natal University later this month was banned, virtually all black schools would be closed by the end of the year.

Outgoing Black Sash president, Mrs Sheena Duncan, said changes being made by the South African Government were designed to entrench the structures of apartheid. Mrs Duncan said the removal of race barriers at a social level and the significant improvement in labour laws were to be welcomed but did not affect apartheid.

"Apartheid is a deliberately planned, coldly evil system designed for the subjection and exclusion of the poor and black majority in order to further the interests and preserve the power of the wealthy and mainly white minority. There has been no reform to the apartheid structures," Mrs Duncan said.

She said apartheid would crumble if the Population Registration Act, which requires people to be classified by race, were repealed. Mrs Duncan said instead of moving away from race classification the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had announced uniform identity documents, but which would describe the race of the holder.

Mrs Duncan, who has been Black Sash president for the past four years, has said she will not stand for re-election on Sunday.

"I am not leaving the Black Sash. I just believe in shared leadership and am making way for others," she said.

Hurley, Naude Made Honorary Members

MB150618 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The Black Sash conference has been officially opened in Durban and as part of its opening ceremony, two men have been made honorary members of the all-woman organization. They are Archbishop Dennis Hurley and the South African Council of Churches General Secretary, Beyers Naude. Carmel Rickard reports on the official opening:

[Rickard] Civil disobedience is the only choice open to South Africans to avoid bloody confrontation. That is according to Black Sash President Sheena Duncan. In her presidential address to the Black Sash last night, the civil rights activists said there were no signs that the government was serious about scrapping apartheid. The government tries to maintain power through the barrel of the gun and if the people try to take it from them using the same methods, a time of unimaginable terror would result.

She said the one small hope she saw was the withdrawal of cooperation by black communities and political movements, a withdrawal which amounted to civil disobedience. It was a strategy not to be used lightly, she warned, but out of a deep respect for the law.

New President Named

MB170629 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2027 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Durban, Mar 16, SAPA — Mrs Mary Burton of Cape Town was elected president of the Black Sash at the organisation's national conference in Durban today. Mrs Burton, the chairman of the western Cape regions of Black Sash, succeeds Mrs Sheena Duncan, who held the post for four years.

The new vice-presidents are Mrs Di Bishop and Mrs Margaret Nash, both of Cape Town, and Mrs Anne Colvin, who is chairman of the Natal Coastal Region of Black Sash.

Mrs Burton was born in Argentina and moved to South Africa in 1961 after marrying a South African. She joined the Black Sash after questioning the cause of some of the problems she encountered during charity work.

"Joining Black Sash was the first step in changing your whole perception of what apartheid means to people in South Africa," Mrs Burton later recalled.

Mandela Allegedly Meets Commonwealth Members

MB141405 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1402 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cape Town, March 14, SAPA — Nelson Mandela's attorney, Mr Ismail Ayob, said today he knew "nothing" about a visit the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group was reported to have paid the jailed African National Congress leader earlier this week.

Mr Ayob was commenting from Johannesburg on a report in the London *FINANCIAL TIMES*, which quoted unnamed sources as saying the meeting had taken place on Wednesday in Pollsmoor Prison, near Cape Town.

The *FINANCIAL TIMES* said the government's sanctioning of the meeting with Mandela — one of the main objectives of the delegation — was the nearest South Africa had come to endorsing the ANC leader's status as a leading political figure.

It would also be seen as an acknowledgement that should the dialogue between black and white being sought by the Commonwealth get under way, Mandela would have a role to play.

On a few occasions in the past, foreign visitors on fact-finding missions to South Africa, including two journalists from the United States, have been given permission to visit Mandela, but most requests have been refused.

West German TV Reporter To Be Expelled

MB141528 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] A German television journalist has been expelled by South African authorities. West German ZDF Channel reporter Albrecht Heise said his application for a renewal of his work permit has been refused and he and his wife have been given 7 days to leave the country. Mr Heise says the authorities give no reason for his expulsion and he has no idea why his work permit has not been renewed. He has been in the country since October and applied for an extension to his 3-month work permit in November.

Earlier this week, three staff members of the CBS TV network won a reprieve on their expulsions ordered by the South African Government.

Reporter Comments

MB141645 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1643 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 14, SAPA — Mr Albrecht Heiser, the West German television reporter who has been informed by the Department of Home Affairs today that he had to leave South Africa within seven days, this evening told SAPA that his expulsion will, in the end, only harm South Africa itself.

Mr Heiser, who had a temporary work permit which expired in mid-January, received the notice to leave after he had applied for an extension until April 30. The notice, signed by the director-general of the Minister of Home Affairs, read:

"Sir:

"Application for the extension for your work permit:

"With reference to the above I regret to inform you that your application has been refused as your work permit already expired on January 16, 1986. You and your wife are now required to leave South Africa as soon as possible but not later than seven days as from the date of receipt of this letter.

"Failure to do so will render you liable to prosecution in terms of the provision of the Aliens Act No 1 of 1937."

The foreign minister of Germany, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, will be asked by the ZDF editor-in-chief to intervene," [quotation marks as received] Mr Heise said. He added that his successor was due in South Africa later this year but that he did not know whether this person had received a work permit yet.

He said tonight that ZDF headquarters in West Germany "is preparing a strong protest to the minister saying that the German audience will have no understanding for such a measure or policy of the South African Government." He said he had already contacted the West German Embassy, which will start working on the case on Monday in Cape Town.

He also said "in the end it will also not be in the interest of South Africa to question the work of respected correspondents in this way."

"I want to know the reason (for the order) or whether it is only an attempt to stop critical journalism. I have never received any complaints on wrong reporting.

"I have once heard unofficially that they (the Department of Home Affairs) disliked a feature I made and although I asked press office of Ministry of Home Affairs what they did not like, they did not respond at all," Mr Heise said.

Reportage on 'Guerrillas' Funeral in Guguletu

Nel Statement on Media Agreement

MB141813 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1810 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 14, SAPA — Herewith follows text of deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel's statement on tomorrow's Guguletu funeral:

"Persuant to the lifting of emergency regulations throughout South Africa there is no longer any restriction in terms of the regulations on the entry of the print and visual media to unrest areas. It is, however, still the view of the authorities that the presence of TV and other cameras in unrest areas may aggravate the situation and might even be a catalyst to violence.

"At a meeting in Pretoria today the deputy minister for information, Mr Louis Nel, accordingly entered into an understanding with local and foreign TV journalists and photographers whereby it was agreed that the funerals in Guguletu on March 15 will be covered by only two TV cameramen, one operated by CBS to serve the United States NTSC-FORMAT users and one operated by WTC to serve PAL-FORMAT users, which will also be available to the SABC.

"In addition, two photographers will cover the funerals on behalf of the foreign media, represented by *NEWSWEEK*, *TIME*, AFP, UPI, REUTERS and ASSOCIATED PRESS. Four photographers will cover the funerals on behalf of the four South African Press Groups, ARGUS, Nationale Pers [National Press], Perskor [Press Corporation] and SAAN [South African Associated Newspapers]. There will be no restriction on the ability of journalists without cameras to report on the funerals.

"This understanding clearly does not have as its object any restriction on the flow of information. It is simply an attempt to avoid the possibility that the presence of an uncontrolled number of TV and other cameramen might aggravate a volatile situation.

"The understanding relates only to the coverage of the funerals in Guguletu on March 15.

"The deputy minister for information has expressed his appreciation for the responsible attitude of the media."

Further Restrictions Imposed

MB150551 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2049 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 14, SAPA — Sweeping restrictions have been imposed on tomorrow's mass funeral in Guguletu of seven alleged African National Congress guerrillas killed in a shootout with police on March 3.

Speakers at the funeral have been banned from criticising or discussing the policies of any government worldwide and have also been banned from criticising the South African Police or its members.

No banners, posters, placards or pamphlets may be displayed or distributed during the funeral and only ordained ministers of religion are allowed to address the mourners, in terms of a ban imposed by the chief magistrate of Wynberg, Mr W.P. Theron.

Restrictions have also been imposed on press coverage of the funeral, with two television crews, two photographers representing all international picture agencies, and one photographer representing each South African newspaper group allowed in by police.

The press restrictions were imposed in terms of a 59-year-old law, the Black Administration Act of 1927. No restrictions were imposed on print or radio journalists.

Between 30,000 and 50,000 people are expected to attend the funeral of the late Mandla Simon Mxinwa, Zola Alfred Swelani, Godfrey Jabulani Miya, Christopher Piet, Themba Mlifi, Zabonke John Konile and Themba Madiyana.

A candlelight vigil was held throughout Wynberg tonight as "a tribute to those comrades who were killed", an organiser of the vigil said tonight.

A large number of sporting bodies affiliated to the Western Province Council on Sport (WEPCOS) have cancelled their sport events for tomorrow in commemoration of the seven.

Police Absent; Restrictions Defied

MB160545 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1446 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 15, SAPA — As the funeral service for seven alleged ANC guerillas shot dead in a gun battle with police on March 3 drew to a close at a sports stadium in Guguletu, Cape Town, this afternoon, police maintained a low profile and a crowd of about 15,000 mourners ramined calm, although emotional.

By 3pm, the time authorities specified the gathering had to end, on the grounds that public peace might be "seriously endangered," the last few of over a dozen speakers were still scheduled to speak and organisers had had to close the gates to stop more people coming in.

A strong contingent of police in a number of casspir armoured vehicles and backed up by a "sneeze machine" mounted on a bakkie stood by at the Mannenburg Police Station a few kilometres away, but no uniformed policemen were seen near the stadium.

A police helicopter circled overhead, at a distance, from time to time.

Although the chief magistrate of Wynberg yesterday ordered only ordained ministers were to speak at the funeral service, and banned political speeches criticising the government or the police, and the display of any flags or banners, all these restrictions were openly defied by mourners.

Large banners representing, among others, the black, green and gold of the exiled African National Congress, the Release Mandela Campaign and the Soviet Union's hammer and sickle were carried in and tied to fences.

The coffins of the seven dead men were draped in ANC banners, held down against the strong wind by plain white wooden crosses bearing their names.

Strict control of the crowd, which swelled from abo [illegible] 000 at the beginning of the service to 15,000, was maintained by marshals wearing United Democratic Front t-shirts and others in khaki uniforms with ANC ribbons and epaulets. Posters of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela were displayed, along with many others carrying slogans like "Police in South Africa are killers," "Unban the ANC, forward to socialism," "We won't stop fighting," and "The people will govern."

Crowds began to gather at the stadium at mid-morning for the service, which was scheduled to start at 11.30am but only got underway about an hour later when the seven coffins were carried into the stadium.

The procession, lead by men carrying ANC and Release Mandela campaign banners, was headed by a group of clergymen, many of them wearing small green "Free Mandela now" stickers handed out at the gate.

The coffins were placed on trestles before the main podium and throughout the service mourners, many of them young white men and women in UDF t-shirts and ANC colours, took turns to stand silently at either end of each casket with a clenched fist raised to shoulder level in the ANC salute.

The dead men, Mr Mandla Simon Mxinwa, Mr Zola Alfred SweLani, Mr Godfrey Jabulani Miya, Mr Christopher Piet, Mr Themba Mlifi, Mr Zabonke John Konile and Mr Themba Madiyana, were killed in a gun battle with police in the streets of Guguletu on Monday, March 3.

Allegations they were ANC guerillas on their way to ambush a police unit have been quesioned by opposition leaders and reports have quoted eye witnesses saying one of the men was hot by police after he had held up his arms in surrender.

The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, has ordered an inquiry into the shooting.

At the start of the funeral service, Mr Christmas Tinto, a regional UDF leader, told the crowd that "what Le Grange has done is at the start of 1986 ... I don't know where it will end, but I know it will end in liberation."

Among other speakers at the service were Mr Aubrey Mokoena, chairman of the release Mandela Campaign, representatives of

COSATU (Congress of South African Trade Unions) the UDF, the Cape Youth Congress, student associations and other activist groupings.

Speeches Urge Unity for Liberation

MB160601 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1516 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 15, SAPA — In emotion-charged speeches delivered at the funeral in Guguletu today of seven alleged ANC guerillas shot dead by police a chanting and foot-stamping crowd of about 15,000 people were urged to unite and "fight on a non-racial basis" for the liberation cause in South Africa.

Speakers from the United Democratic Front, the Release Mandela Campaign, COSATU [Congress of South African Trade unions], the Cape Youth Congress, student associations and other organisations from as far afield as Port Elizabeth said the government was to blame for the death of their "comrades" but added that the "struggle for freedom must continue."

Speeches were interspersed with calls to the crowd to stand up and join in songs and foot-stamping chants.

As a police helicopter rircled overhead, one young boy, apparently in his early teens, raised the crowd to its feet to join him in a stirring rendition of what it popularly known in the black townships as the "AK-47 song."

The Rev Godfrey Masala, delivering a message on behalf of the "ministers fraternity" said he knew freedom would come to the people as it had to the Jews in Biblical times after many years of struggle and oppression and the death of many.

"You will be free, but when the moment of liberation comes the moment of victory ... the bones of those who have fallen must not be forgotten ... do not forget these comrades who lie fallen here today," he said.

Another clergyman said the lives of blacks in South Africa had become "cheap" and that black people were treated like dogs. "These seven young men who still had their future ahead of them ... were shot like flies because their lives were so cheap."

He warned that the black man had been "patient for too long ... the black man is like an angry black elephant who destroys things because he is angry." He urged the crowd to "leave the killing and the hatred to our enemies, because we need each other."

Student speakers described the South African Police as "the enemy" and said it was time to "unite our forces in a mass action to confront the enemy."

"It is clear that the racists cannot continue to rule in the old way ... a dying regime is being kept alive by those who carry arms in its defence and reform is designed to defuse our growing momentum for liberation," one said. "One of our comrades was killed with his hands in the air and some were lying on the ground but were still killed ... can this be called law and order? Today we have lost some of our comrades and the government is laughing, saying it has killed terrorists."

Mrs "Mama" Mangcina, the leader of a woman's organisation in Port Elizabeth's blck townships and who was recently released from detention when the state of emergency was lifted, said the "Boers" had killed the seven "comrades" and spilled their blood on the streets of Guguletu. "But no matter what happens, the fight for liberation must keep on."

Mr Aubrey Mokoena, chairman of the Release Mandela Campaign, said he brought greetings from the Transvaal and that the whole country was mourning the killing of the seven men.

"One day we will be free ... their blood was not shed in vain, it was shed for liberation and the South African Government is to blame for their deaths," he said.

Mr Mokoena also called for the unbanning of the ANC, saying the government "has no right to rule us." There could never be a political settlement in South Africa if Nelson Mandela was not a part of it. "Whether the government likes it or not, Nelson Mandela is going to come out (of jail) and rule the country." God, time, history, numbers and resources were on the side of those struggling for liberation, he said.

Teargas Fired at Postfuneral March

MB160549 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2059 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 15, SAPA — Police fired teargas and a man was shot in the leg after a march by about 400 people on the Guguletu police station following the funerals of seven alleged ANC guerrillas today.

A police liaison officer for the western Cape, Lt Attie Laubscher, denied earlier allegations "with the contempt it deserves" that police had shot the man.

"I have investigated the matter and no firearms were used at all," he said. He confirmed that teargas was used to disperse the group of people.

"Allegations that the police shot a person in the leg after a march after the Guguletu funerals today are false and unfounded. The fact that the name and address could not be supplied to the police show that the allegations are malicious and reckless. I reject the allegations with the contempt it deserves," Lt Laubscher said.

Earlier reports said members of the crowd claimed police had blocked the road with vehicles shortly before the Guguletu police station.

One woman, who would not be identified, alleged a policeman "in a white truck" had shot a man in the leg.

Alleged Informer Assaulted

MB160628 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] South African Police have confirmed they fired teargas to break up a group of people after yesterday's funeral of sevel alleged ANC guerillas at Gugulethu near Cape Town.

There has been no further word on the fate of a person who was accused of being an informer and assaulted by people at the funeral. About 20,000 people attended the burial of the seven under the banners of the ANC and the South African Communist Party.

Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mine Unrest Continues

Mine Rounding Up 'Intimidators'

MB151311 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1315 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Johanensburg, March 15, SAPA — Mine security at the Blyvooruitzicht gold mine are rounding up intimidators said to be responsible for shift workers not reporting for duty last night and a mob setting fire to a hostel and four mine vehicles, a mine spokesman said.

Mr Gerg Kukard, a spokesman for Rand Mines which administers Blyvooruitzicht, said following talks with the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and mine officials on Thursday and yesterday the miners were prepared to return to work and the mine was opened for the night shift yesterday.

"By 4pm yesterday there were signs of intimidation. People were going from room to room telling people who were due to go on the nightshift that they should go underground but should stage another sit-in.

"The intimidators then told workers that they must not go to work at all," Mr Kukard said.

He said a contingent of Mozambican workers at the number two hostel complained that they had been intimidated and wanted to lay charges.

"They came forward as witnesses and statements were taken. As a result of that, mine security officers went and detained two intimidators at the hostel.

"Shortly after that a mob gathered outside the hostel managers office and very soon it became unruly. The mine then sent its security people there to ensure that things didn't get out of hand. The mob then became more unruly and then moved out of the hostel area where they behaved aggressively and started stoning the security force. The security force, prompted mainly for concern for its own safety, used teargas and rubber bullets to try and disperse the mob," Mr Kukard said.

By that time the South African Police had been notified that their support may be needed. At this stage the mob numbered between 1000 and 1500, he said. Two police officers were sent in to investigate and their vehicle was stoned.

"Some shots were fired and they withdrew to call in a full police contingent," Mr Kukard said, adding that from then on the police took full control of the situation.

Wehn the violence started in the hostel management evacuated senior hostel staff shortly after which the hostel administration offices were set alight and burnt out. The unrest lasted for 7pm to 11pm, he said.

Five miners died of which two were murdered and more than 100 were injured, some by birdshot, but, Mr Kukard said, the majority had been injured by intimidators.

Management last night issued an ultimatum telling the workers they would be dismissed if they did not go to work.

"Management's concern, in spite of the work lost and the strike being illegal, was to try and talk to the workers and persuade them to go back to work," Mr Kukard said.

He said it was clear to management that most of the workers do want to work and because of that "the mine has set about formally identifying the main intimidators and these people are being rounded up and are being arrested by mine security police."

5 Killed, 100 Injured in Violence

MB150938 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0931 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 15, SAPA — Five people were killed in violence and at least another 100 were injured at the Blyvooruitzich gold mine, near Carltonville last night, a spokesman for the mine said today.

He said three died when police used teargas, rubber bullets, shotguns and sharp ammunition to disperse the striking miners and two other were murdered.

The administration block of the mines number two hostel was burned down last night, he said.

There were about 100 people injured "some with buckshot wounds and the others were beaten up by intimidators," he said.

The mine suspended operation early this week after about 1200 miners staged a 36 hour sit-in underground.

The spokesman said that the situation at the mine was calm this morning.

"The situation at the mine is extremely tense and the area has been sealed off," a spokesman for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Mr Marcel Golding, said in Johannesburg today.

He said the turn of events yesterday was sparked off by the arrest of two shaft stewards and "the unnecessary intervention of the police."

Death Toll Rises to Seven

MB160612 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1946 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mr 15, SAPA — The death toll in clashes between police and miners at the Blyvooruitzicht Rand Mines gold mine near Carletonville yesterday has risen to seven, a spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations said in Pretoria tonight.

He said six miners and one security guard had been killed in the fighting. Three injured bodies were found during investigation and one of the injured died in hospital.

There were still 58 people in hospital and 158 had been discharged after treatment. He said the police were investigating.

At KwaZakhele, near Port Elizabeth, the charred body of an unidentified black woman was found by police today. The cause of her death was being investigated.

7,000 Return to Work; 160 Fired

MB170532 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] The 7,000 day-shift workers at the Blyvooruitzicht gold mine near Carletonville on the west Rand decided to return to work this morning. And, according to our economics news staff, the situation at the mine had returned to normal.

About 160 workers were dismissed last night for refusing to return to work on the night-shift. These miners were sent home by bus. About 1,000 of the night-shift workers continued working, while 400 still have to take a decision.

In earlier unrest at the mine, four miners were killed in clashes with security forces while two others were alleged to have been murdered in their hostels. More than 20 workrs were arrested on charges of intimidation.

Pretoria Consumer Boycott To Begin 24 March

MB141446 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1428 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 14, SAPA — The Pretoria business community is in for another tough time after the Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee's decision this week to call for an indefinite boycott of consumer goods in white shops from March 24.

A spokesman for the Pretoria Consumer Boycott Committee (PCBC) said today the boycott would start on March 24 and would be effected by residents of Atteridgeville, Mamelodi and Soshanguve "because their demands have not been met."

Early this year, the PCBC lifted a month-long consumer boycott of white shops imposed in December last year and threatened to reimpose the boycott if certain demands were not met.

Their demands include:

— A call to the Pretoria City Council to stop the planned removal of the black taxi rank from Bloed Street to Marabastad;
— The withdrawal of security forces in the townships;
— The unbanning of COSAS (Congress of South African Students);
— The release of all the boycott-related detainees; and
— The reinstatment of Metal Box Workers.

The decision was taken after the petrol-bombing of the houses of two sympathisers of anti-apartheid organisations in Mamelodi.

The group said pro-apartheid forces were out to create confusion and extend the presence of the police and the army in the township.

White shops and businesses in Pretoria were hard hit by the December boycott, despite several efforts by the Pretoria business community [PBC] to counteract it.

Press, Public To Be Barred From Indaba

MB130855 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0719 GMT 13 March 86

[Text] Durban, March 13, SAPA — The public and press will be barred from attending sessions of the KwaZulu/Natal indaba, which opens in Durban City Hall on April 3. This was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman for the organising committee who said that only the official opening at 10am would be open to the public.

Durban's mayor, Mr Stan Lange, has been invited to officially open the indaba. After the opening, the meeting will adjourn to the council chamber where all further sittings will be held in camera.

The spokesman said the decision to exclude public and press was to enable the participants to have "free and frank" discussions on possible joint rule for KwaZulu and Natal at the second-tier level of government.

Sessions of the indaba, to which 37 organisations have been invited, will be held twice a week, possibly on Thursdays and Fridays from 9am to 4pm. The spokesman said no timetable had been laid down.

"It could take anything up to three months or longer, depending on how soon consensus is reached," he said.

The deliberation will be chaired by a judge, Mr Justice S. Miller, with Prof Desmond Clarence, a former principal of the University of Natal, as deputy chairman.

The indaba is being organised jointly by Natal's senior MEC [member of executive committee], MR Frank Martin, and Dr Oscar Dhlomo, a KwaZulu cabinet minister and secretary-general of Inkatha.

Several Groups Confirm Attendance

MB141448 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Our Durban News staff reports that the city's Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce has decided to participate in the talks on proposed cooperation between Natal and KwaZulu. The Chamber's chairman, Mr (Karel Mouton), says as there is no predetermined agenda, his organization believes that its presence could make a meaningful contribution to the discussions.

The talks are set to begin on the third of next month at the Durban City Hall, and will be held in camera. The executive of the Natal Agricultural Union has, in the meantime, unanimously decided to attend the opening session of the talks. A final descusion on the union's participation will be taken later.

The Natal Municipal Union, the Black Allied Workers Union, the KwaZulu Sugar Growers Association, and the Sugar Association have all indicated that they will be attending the talks.

The Progressive Federal Party has accepted its invitation verbally and, according to reports, the Conservative Party has also decided to attend. The Reformed National Party has turned down the invitation in writing.

The Durban Chamber of Commerce has in its journal expressed itself in favor of the talks, and the city council has already named its representatives.

8 Miners Killed, 66 Injured in Clashes Near Orkney

MB170539 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Eight mine workers have been killed and 66 injured in clashes between Sothos and Xhosas at the Vaal Reefs gold mine near Orkney. A spokesman for the mine said running battles between the groups broke out at a hostel on Saturday night and again in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Mine security was called in to control the fighting, and the situation at the mine was peaceful last night.

Thousands of Workers Observe Mamelodi Stay-Away

MB171108 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 17, SAPA — Thousands of workers from Mamelodi stayed away from work today in protest against the disruption of a meeting yesterday in which at least 10 people were injured.

Primary school pupils also boycotted classes while secondary and high school students in the area started their first day at home following the Department of Education and Training's decision to suspend classes at some schools in Mamelodi and Soshanguve.

Some of the workers stayed away against their will as groups of youths ensured the stay-away call was heeded. Transport in and out of the township was scarce with no buses and virtually no taxis operating in the area.

The call was made about six hours after the injury of at least 10 people when police used tear-gas, birdshot, buckshot and bullets to disperse about 3,000 people who attended the launching of the Mamelodi Civic Association at the local YMCA centre yesterday.

Eight people suffered back, arm, leg and head injuries from birdshot while two are reported to be in a serious condition at Kalafong Hospital, one with a bullet lodged in his head and the other with a punctured lung allegedly caused by buckshot.

The meeting was disrupted shortly before Mrs Albertina Sisulu, president of the UDF [United Democratic Front] and guest speaker, addressed the meeting. The proceedings were nearing the end when a speaker told the crowd that the police were giving them 15 minutes to disperse, but the shooting is said to have started before the stipulated time had lapsed.

Mrs Sisulu was whisked away from the meeting by some people and it is not known whether she got safely out of the township.

Police pursued the fleeing crowd and a running battle started between the police and the youths. Burning tyres and waste paper were placed at several points in the vicinity, allegedly to weaken the effect of the tear-gas.

Transkei Minister's Killers Sentenced to Death

MB121447 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Two men found guilty of the murder of Transkei's deputy minister of agriculture, Mr Cromwell Diko, have been sentenced to death in the Supreme Court in Umtata.

The two men, Mkizimane Simon Mbelo and Bhekizulu Elliot Khumalo, both of Msinga in Natal, had earlier been found guilt by Justice Lombaard of shooting Mr Diko in front of his home at Tabankulu in the Transkei.

Soweto Youths Attacked by 'Comrades'

MB141050 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0919 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 14, SAPA — Twelve Soweto teenagers who apparently refused to join a group of young radicals were attacked by a mob calling themselves "comrades" yesterday.

The youngsters, four girls and eight boys from Diepkloof and Richmond Acre, were treated at Baragwanath Hospital and discharged after being attacked with golf clubs, knives and pangas, SAPA's conrrespondent reports.

The youths, who refused to be named for fear of victimisation, told SAPA they were attacked by the mob living in the old Diepkloof township who accused them of being "sellouts" for defying a call to join the comrades. They said they were confronted at the Diepkloof shopping centre after school.

"We were accused of refusing to join the struggle because we thought we were black elitists," one youth said.

Another added the comrades accused them of standing aloof while others were fighting for their liberation.

"We were battered with all sorts of weapons without being given an opportunity to answer the allegation."

The shopping centre was turned into a casualty ward after the attack and the youths were rushed to hospital bleeding profusely.

The attack came after black political leaders denounced the black on black violence which recently claimed the life of a PUTCO [Public Transport Company] bus driver, Mr Jerry Mothibedi, who was buried yesterday.

Six Pupils Detained by Police in Worcester

MB121946 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1917 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 12, SAPA — Six school pupils were allegedly detained by police in Worcester today on the first day of a mass boycott of a local high school.

Mr Freddie Fourie, of the Worcester Detainees Parents Support Committee, said the pupils had been detained after police raids on their homes and on the Bree River Senior Seconday School.

Mr Fourie said that Anthony Frieslaar, Jonathan Swart and Saron Isaacs had been taken from their homes and that Jonathan Anthony, Christopher van Wyk and another unidentified pupil had been detained at the school.

Replying to these allegations, the Police Public Relations Division in Pretoria said: According to our present records, none of the persons mentioned are being held in terms of security legislation. We are not prepared to comment on routine police duties.

Mr Fourie said that Jonathan Anthony had been detained for 96 days last year and Jonathan Swart for over 30 days.

He said: The police surrounded the school in the morning after almost all the pupils — more than 1000 — had begun boycotting in response to the expulsion of seven pupils last month. The seven were expelled after a disagreement with the principal over the exam system of last year, which had caused them not to be promoted. There has been a lot of dissatisfaction about this in the school. At a meeting of the pupils yesterday it was decided to boycott in support of the seven.

A petition has been circulating calling for the students' reinstatement, the recognition of a Parents-Teachers-Students Association and the disbanding of statutory school bodies like school committes. More than 1000 parents have signed this petition. I can not see the situation settling down until the principal gives way on these issues. People here are very uneasy.

The principal of the school, Mr Ivan Petrus, was not available for comment today.

Police Force Cancellation of Athlone Mass Rally

MB130448 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2023 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 12, SAPA — Police forced a mass rally to be abandoned today and an anti-apartheid campaigner called for the re-imposition of the consumer boycott in the eastern Cape where two leading activists were banned yesterday by the government.

Police blocked entrance to the Samaj Centre in Athlone, where hundreds of high school pupils had gathered to attend a mass rally to mark National Detainees Day. The rally was later cancelled.

Three casspirs, three police vans and a police video unit — under the command of Major Dolf Odendaal, second in command of the Peninsula Reaction Unit — occupied the parking lot of the Samaj Centre, blocking access to the hall.

At the University of Cape Town [UCT], over 500 students heard eastern Cape United Democratic Front [UDF] publicity secretary, Mr Stone Sizani, call for a re-imposition of the consumer boycott following the banning for five years of UDF leaders Mr Mkhuseli Jack and Mr Heny Fazzie.

"We will hit back hard. They have banned our comrades and continue to lock us up and to brutalise us in our towns," Mr Sizani said.

The meeting was held to mark the Day of Remembrance.

Mr Denis Davis, an associate professor of law at UCT, said a "concentrated, clear and systematic practice of brutality is being directed at detainees."

Mr Sizani, who also addressed the UWC [University of the Western Cape] meeting, said "all over our country our people have decided that the state must fall, not only the state but the system. People are committed to change the fabric of our society."

Police Issue Warning on Port Elizabeth Funeral

MB150553 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2040 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 14, SAPA — Police have warned that the planned funeral of an African National Congress guerrilla in Port Elizabeth tomorrow will infringe a ban on meetings.

Thanduxolo Mbethe, 25, an ANC member, was shot dead in a skirmish with the police last month.

The divisional commissioner of the SA Police in the eastern Cape, Brigadier Ernest Schnetler today focused attention on the prohibition of gatherings in terms of Section 46(3)(a) of the Internal Security Act as published in the Government Gazette on September 27 last year, which prohibits any gathering, apart from bone fide sports occasions, or held within a building, until March 31.

Referring to the funeral planned to be held tomorrow, Brig Schnetler said gatherings of this nature could only be authorised by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, or the chief magistrate of the district in which the gathering is to be held. From this it is quite clear that even open-air church services are prohibited, Brig Schnetler said.

Thousands Attend Funeral

MB160653 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1611 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] East London, Mar 15, SAPA — Calls for the unbanning of the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Students, and the two local leaders, Mr Henry Fazzie and Mr Mkhuseli Jack, were made at the funeral in New Brighton today of Mr Tanduxolo Mbethe, who died in a shootout with police last month.

Thousands of mourners listened to speeches from the Assemblies of God Church, or danced outside, while members of the SA Police and SA Defence Force watched.

Mr Edgar Ngoyi, president of the UDF [United Democratic Front] (East Cape), said the people of South Africa had for long been speaking to the Pretoria regime, using both Afrikaans and English to demand their rights, but to no avail.

Mr Fikile Kobese, national secretary of MACWUSA [Motor Assembly and Component Workers' Union of South Africa], said Uitenhage residents would commemorate the first anniversary of the March 21 Langa shootings by staying away from work.

All was quiet at the service, which was originally planned for the Dan Qeqe stadium.

It was stated yesterday by the divisional commissioner of police in the eastern Cape, Brig Ernest Schnetler, that outdoor gatherings, with the exception of sports meetings, had been prohibited until March 31 in terms of the Internal Security Act. It was feared that the funeral organisers might defy the prohibition on outdoor gatherings and meet in the stadium, but the service was eventually held in a church in Pendla Street, New Brighton.

The police liaison officer for the eastern Cape, Lt Col Gerrie van Rooyen, said that by late this afternoon there had been no incidents.

Police Confiscate Funeral Flags in Saulsville

MB160634 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2001 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 15, SAPA — Two ANC flags draped over the coffins of two unrest victims were confiscated by police travelling in hippos escorting a procession of mourners to the local cemetery in Saulsville today.

Police watched from their casspirs as the mourners chanted freedom songs and delivered political speeches at the AMD [African Methodist Episcopal] church — despite a ruling by a Pretoria magistrate that there should be no such actions.

Other restrictions allegedly ignored were that the two deceased — Mrs Esther Masuku and Mr Ben Mabena — should not be buried at a joint funeral ceremony.

Earlier, before the funeral prosession, police allegedly told hearse drivers to first load the coffin of Mrs Masulu and then return for that of Mr Mabena.

Mrs Masuku was killed when a handgrenade was hurled into her home, at the same time injuring her elder son Oupa — who was granted permission by the local hospital this morning to bury his mother.

Mr Mabena was allegedly shot dead by police during last week's unrest in the township.

It was later reported that during the church service more than five buses were turned back from the township entrance by police manning a road block. It was also claimed that police seized several youths — including several from Ledra and Soweto — on their way to the funeral, and that they were later assaulted.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 14 Mar

MB141809 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1806 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 14, SAPA — The unrest situation from the SAP public relation division to 7pm follows:

"At Lynville near Witbank arsonists caused extensive damage to a local Catholic church as well as the home of a policeman.

"At Jouberton near Klerksdorp police used teargas to disperse mobs who stoned two buses and a police vehicle.

"At Sebokeng near Vanderbijlpark sporadic incidents occurred in which blacks damaged mainly SAP vehicles by stoning them.

"At Duncan Village near East London a private vehicle as well as a vehicle belonging to the SA Railways Police were stoned in separate incidents.

"At Matsulu in KaNgwane arsonists caused extensive damage to a delivery vehicle. In another incident police used teargas and shotguns when they were attacked with petrol bombs.

"At Soweto two delivery vehicles were stoned and two private vehicles were set on fire in separate incidents.

"At Katlehong near Germiston, a post office vehicle, two development board vehicles, buses and a SAP vehicle were damaged."

Ends report.

Early 15 Mar
MB150626 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0622 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 15, SAPA — The following is the 8am unrest situation report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"At New Brighton, Port Elizabeth, 11 blacks forced the driver of a private vehicle to take them to a UDF (United Democratic Front) meeting. They fled after the SAP (South African Police) used shotguns. One man was wounded.

"At Soweto, Witwatersrand, two private dwellings were extensively damaged by arsonists.

"While attempting to burn a house about 300 blacks were confronted by municipal police, who fired shotguns. One man was fatally wounded and another arrested.

"At the Blyvooruitzight gold mine near Oberholzer, a SAP vehicle was stoned. A mob marching on the white residential area was dispersed with teargas. Arsonists caused extensive damage to mine buildings and property. The SAP and security officials at the mine fired teargas, rubber bullets, shotguns and sharp ammunition. Three black men were fatally wounded and another seven wounded."

Ends report.

Early 16 Mar
MB160621 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0618 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 16, SAPA — This is the 8am unrest situation from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"The following incidents of urnest were reported overnight:

"At Guguletu, (western Cape), several SAP (South African Police) vehicles were stoned by a group of black youths who attended the funeral held there yesterday. Police used teargas to disperse the group.

"At Witlokasie, near Knysna, a private and several SAP vehicles were stoned. Police made use of teargas and shotguns. Three black youths were wounded and arrested. An older black man was also arrested.

"At Lynville, near Witbank, a large group of black men wearing United Democratic Front shirts and hats and armed with sticks and sjamboks clashed with police. The latter used shotguns. Six black men were wounded while 37 black men were arrested."

Ends report.

Late 16 Mar
MB170519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1734 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 16, SAPA — Following is the SA Police unrest situation report at 7pm today:

"At Swala Trust near Hazyview unknown arsonists extensively damaged two private vehciles.

"At Attridgeville near Pretoria, a man was set on fire. The SAP extinguished the fire and dispersed the group with teargas. The man was admitted to hospital.

"At Jouberton near Klerksdorp, a group of blacks petrol-bombed a SAP vehicle. The SAP made use of shotgun. Two men were fatally wounded, another wounded and eight arrested. Two black men and two black women were treated for gunshot wounds in the local hospital. The circumstances are being investigated as it is not clear at this stage if they were involved in this incident."

Early 17 Mar
MB170734 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0719 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 17, SAPA — (Here follows the police overnight unrest report as issued by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:)

"At Lamontville near Durban, two SAP vehicles and an Administration Board vehicle were stoned on separate occasions. In the latter incident an Administration Board guard used shotgun fire to disperse the mob. No injuries were reported. At Claremont the SAP used teargas smoke when their vehicle was stoned.

"At Zwelentemba near Worcester the Administration Board offices were stoned. The SAP used tearsmoke and shotgun fire to disperse the mob. No injuries were reported.

"At Rosedale in the Eastern Province unknown persons slightly damaged a classroom of the John Walker School when it was set on fire.

"At Zwide and Walmer near Port Elizabeth guards used shotgun fire when the dwellings of two council members were stoned. No injuries were reported.

"In other incidents in Zwide the dwellings of two policemen were petrol-bombed. During one of the incidents a policeman used shotgun fire to defend his property. No injuries were reported.

"At Duncan Village in the border area the SAP arrested a man when a mob stoned a private home.

"At Teasonlew white residential area near Knysna a private home was petrol-bombed. Slight damage was caused.

"In the black residential area a police vehicle was stoned. The SAP defended themselves by using shotgun fire. One man was fatally wounded, another five wounded and one man was arrested.

"A sawmill in the black residential area was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At the new black residential area near Bethlehem in the [Orange] Free State two men were arrested when a private home was stoned.

"At Kwathemba near Springs an SAP vehicle and a private home were stoned.

"At the black residential area near Aliwal north the SAP used tearsmoke to disperse a mob that gathered illegally. Twelve men were arrested. At Hartebeesfontein in the western Transvaal a beerhall was slightly damaged when it was set on fire."

Ends report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Call for Mass Boycotts

Peter Honey reports on page 3 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 13 March that "mass boycotts to bring down government were urged yesterday by the National Forum (NF)". "The aim was to totally withdraw from the economic, social and politcal framework of SA's capitalist system, said NF convener Saths Cooper and secretary Lusiba Ntloko." Cooper added that although he did not advocate violence, "it was doubtful that resistance groups would be able to continue as peaceful movements in the face of hardening represssion from government" and said talks have already been held with United Democratic Front affiliates about a left-wing alliance.

Concern Over Police Methods

In an editorial on page 4, *BUSINESS DAY* says: "We share the growing concern of reasonable people at the increasing number of deaths arising from police methods of controlling crowds." While there will undoubtedly be occasions on which the police have to react firmly, "we fear there is a deep philosophical attitude sometimes underpinning the harshness of police response. The skewed nature of our social structure has over the years produced a society intolerant of opposition — particularly opposition from blacks, who have been regarded and treated as non-people." Furthermore, "it is apparent that this intolerance stems right from the top — certainly if pronouncements from Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange are anything to go by."

Soweto Households Below Poverty Line

A report on page 6 says that a professor of social anthropology at the University of the Witwatersrand has completed a socio-economic profile of Soweto households over the past 8 years which found "some households had improved their situation while a large number had fallen below the poverty line." He said the situation was likely to deteriorate further as real wages decreased and unemployment remained the same. " 'The economic situation of blacks has shown little or no sign of significant improvement since the mid-70s,' " he added.

BUSINESS DAY on Budget

In a page 4 editorial on Finance Minister Barend du Plessis' upcoming budget speech, the 14 March *BUSINESS DAY* lists what the budget "should not contain." In the first place, the budget must not be stimulatory since "we cannot risk the rate of inflation going much higher than 20 percent for any length of time." Second, "there must be no further spread of government into the private sector" nor "should there be a significant increase in government borrowing."

Black Education Meeting Planned

"The deepening crisis in black education, and the reaction of hundreds of thousands of pupils to it, will be on the agenda of an education conference at the end of the month," Thelma Tuch reports on page 9. The conference is being organized by the National Education Crisis Committee and it is planned that over 1,000 delegates from all over the country will attend the meeting in Durban which is scheduled for 29 and 30 March.

Crocker Has No Right To Criticize

Commenting on the criticism by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker on the government's banning of eastern Cape community leaders Mkhuseli Jack and Henry Fazzie in an editorial on page 6, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 14 March says: "We don't think Dr Crocker has any right to question the genuineness of the government's reform motives, or its desire to negotiate the future of the blacks, because it bans two black radicals. And we doubt whether he is well enough briefed on their background to pass any judgment." Nevertheless, the paper says the bannings were a mistake as "banning is an arbitrary act and a breach of the rule of law." If Jack and Fazzie have done something wrong, they should be charged and, moreover, "the new bannings are not worth the uproar they have caused."

Race Relations in Mafeking

The paper reports on page 8 that a survey conducted by the Human Sciences Research Council found that "white-black integration has gone off smoothly in the once white town of Mafeking — now Mafeking — and white residents of the town believe their race relations are better than those in the Republic." Whites believe race relations have improved in the 4 years since Mafeking was incorporated into Bophuthatswana. A majority of those surveyed "said they would leave Mafeking if the Bophuthatswana Government were to withdraw its guarantees to the Whites in the town or the Whites were compelled to send their children to Black schools," but "most Whites also said they would not leave Mafeking if large numbers of Blacks moved into White residential areas."

Black Work Stoppage at Dairy

The paper reports on page 9 that milk deliveries to large sections of the Reef were disrupted by a work stoppage at the Mayfair depot of the National Cooperative Dairies on 12 March. A company public relations officer said " 'all the Black workers at the Mayfair plant downed tools and delivery has been affected but white staff have kept the manufacturing plant going.' "

Afrikaans To Stay in Indian Schools

A report on page 11 notes that the minister of education and culture in the House of Delegates, Kassie Ramduth, has said that Afrikaans will remain a compulsory subject in all Indian schools. The president of the Teachers Association of South Africa had reportedly said that students should not have to learn a language that would have " 'little meaning or relevance.' "

Treurnicht Criticizes U.S. Policy

Melody McDougall reports on page 3 of Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 14 Mar that Conservative Party Leader Andries Treurnicht has "lashed out" at reports of "President Ronald Reagan's proposal of greater U.S. involvement in bringing about change in South Africa." Treurnicht told a meeting at the Vereeniging town hall that U.S. "designs for South Africa simply meant the white man is expendable. 'We will not allow ourselves to be sold out. We have a right to be here, we are here to stay and we will fight to live in freedom.' "

De Klerk on Problems in Black Education

Another report on the same page says that Minister of National Education F.W. de Klerk told the House of Representatives that "unequal facilities and own affairs departments were not the main cause of problems in black education." De Klerk added that "the poverty culture in black communities, the interference of radicals in education, the breakdown in discipline among youth and the poor qualifications of teachers" were the causes of problems.

Khuma Township 'Turmoil'

Rick Mkhondo reports on page 7 that police fired birdshot and teargas to disperse mourners at Khuma township near Stilfontein when "5,000 mourners were marching to the cemetary after defying a ruling by the chief magistrate of Klerksdorp, Mr Izak Vlok to bury the victims on Tuesday." Mkhondo adds that the township has been "in a state of turmoil since the beginning of the month when Borakanelo pupils refused to attend classes until their demands were met. The demands include the establishment of a student representative council and lowering of fees from R20 to R3."

STAR on Jack, Fazzie Bannings

In a page 10 editorial on the banning of eastern Cape community leaders Mkhuseli Jack and Henry Fazzie and Chester Crocker's criticism of the move, *THE STAR* asks: "Is some sort of death-wish at work? Never mind that Dr Crocker has an increasingly harder time defending constructive engagement and that this country's U.S. links are suffering further harm. What is worse is the damage the government is doing to the country and its people's prospects for peace."

Slabbert on Extraparliamentary Politics

In the "first column of a regular fortnightly series by the former Leader of the opposition," Frederik van Zyl Slabbert says on page 10 that "the average white South African shies away from extra-parliamentary politics" as if it were "something subversive, unloyal or unpatriotic." Since the government needs support from a majority of white voters it will listen to the white churches, white teachers and civil servants, farmers, big business, white labor unions, and so on "but all other extra-parliamentary interest groups who by law do not have access to government by the vote are viewed with great suspicion and their extra-parliamentary activities curbed in all possible ways." The "curious situation" in South Africa "is that extra-parliamentary groups that have no access to government through 'normal' political procedures, ie the vote, apply more pressure for change than those that do have access. Whether we have a more or less violent future ahead of us depends on how the government is going to come to terms with those extra-parliamentary groups and their activities."

Causes on Miners Strikes

In an article on this week's strikes by black mineworkers on the West Rand on page 11, Sherly Raine says the strikes were caused by several factors, including "delays in the scrapping of statutory job reservation," "years of frustration on the part of migrant black workers," "significant consciousness raising of black minerworkers" since the formation of the NUM as well as "growing tension between white and black employees, reports from Witbank that white miners on coal mines were threatening to arm themselves for protection against militant black workers," "spillover of political turbulence from nearby black townships into the workplace," and "the unnatural concentration of thousands of men in hostels."

Warning of 'Tax Revolt'

Michael Chester reports on the same page that Andre Spire, "executive director of the Syncom think-tank," has warned Finance Minister Barend du Plessis "in the countdown to the 1986 budget that further tax increases threaten to spark both a business exodus and a tax revolt among individual income tax payers." Spire added that "the only solution was a radical and sweeping privatisation programme."

Warmbaths Stayaway Ending

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 14 March reports on page 2 that residents of Bela Bela township near Warmbaths "were beginning to trickle back to work after a ten day stayaway. Many of the strikers have been taken back into their jobs. In some cases they have been told that their pay would be cut and others have been fired. Some who were fired were told to re-apply for their jobs." The paper adds that the house of the mayor was damaged during unrest and "all town councillors fled the township and were staying in Warmbaths." "Many youths disappeared from the township when security forces raided the township."

Mamelodi Evictions

"Scores of residents in Mamelodi, Pretoria — where rent arrears total nearly R2m — have been threatened with eviction unless they settle their accounts," the paper reports on the same page. Mamelodi Mayor Zikhali Ndlazi said only those persons who owed more than R500 in back rent had been served summonses.

SADF Denied Tearsmoke Incident

"The South African Defence Forces has denied that any of its soldiers fired tearsmoke into a Mohlakeng home on March 6 as reported in the *SOWETAN* of the following day," the paper says on page 2. A telex from the SADF's director of public relations said " 'it appears from the report that some of the residents of Mohlakeng are unable to distinguish members of the defence force from other elements of the security forces because there were no member of the defence force on duty in the area that day. Therefore they could not have been involved in this incident.'"

SOWETAN on Selective Law and Order

In an editorial on page 4, the *SOWETAN* says "the sustained bombing of private houses in Pretoria townships make us conclude that there is a band of terrorists on the loose. The situation is becoming intolerable. The police should stop these people." Noting that no arrest have been made in petrol bombings on the houses of political activists, the paper says "the township people are beginning to believe that there is selectivity in the process of law and order." When the houses of government supporters are attacked, "there seems to be robust police activity to get the culprits," but little is done when the houses of activists are the target.

Column on Police, SADF

The "Joe's Burg" Column on page 8 notes that while many blacks joined the police force in the past in order to beat influx control restrictions or because they could not get another job, black policemen "find themselves in a completely different role now. They are required to maintain laws which they probably do not agree with" and have become targets of attacks. As for the whites who join the police force, they join "simply because they are provided with a uniform," since "to the Afrikaner, in particular, wearing a uniform is a symbol of power, of authority." As salaries are low, the police "do not, therefore, attract the most desirable of people generally, as the good guys tend to find other, better-paying jobs." The presence of the SADF, which is supposed "to be protecting us against invasion by foreign forces," further aggravates tension in the townships for "it seems they have joined in a war against people of their own country."

Road to Kruger Park Closed

On page 2 of the Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 14 March, the paper reports that the road between White River and Numbi Gate in the Kruger National Park has been closed to traffic following several incidents of unrest in the black areas along the road. "A police spokesman confirmed the closure yesterday, and said it was done to ensure the safety of the road users in the area". The paper says in a nearby residential area two trucks were set on fire two nights ago by rioters.

New Reforms Planned

On the same page the paper reports that Prof H.W. van der Merwe, director of the Center for Intergroup Studies at the University of Cape Town, told an international conference on peace and security in southern Africa, held in Arusha, Tanzania, that President Botha was sincere in his intention to negotiate with leaders of all the communities in South Africa. Prof van der Merwe told the conference that the government would announce further reform steps this year, possibly following a referendum, in order to formulate a new constitution and new structures in which blacks could take their place in the central government. The paper adds that Prof van der Merwe was granted special permission by the Tanzanian Government to address the conference. It says the conference was attended by senior Tanzanian Government representatives, as well as government officials from Third World countries, Eastern Bloc Countries, academics, and representatives of the ANC, SWAPO, and the Pan Africanist Congress.

BEELD on Crocker Statements

In an editorial on page 6 the paper says it appears as though South Africa and America have reached a crossroads in their relations. This, it says, is clear from the rhetoric of American politicians these days. It refers to statements made by Dr Chester Crocker who, it says, twice in a week uttered ominous remarks about this country. "The reason for the change in relations is simple: South Africa has become an emotional issue in the American media and both political parties believe that they can win votes in an election year by hitting at South Africa. In this climate it is doubtful if the Reagan administration will be able to stop further sanctions." It says that the reform process in South Africa is much too important, and this country must not allow it to fail as a result of American political goals.

BEELD on Mafikeng

In another editorial on the same page, the paper says unlike the predictions of some whites and prophets of doom, the heavens did not fall in 1980 when Mafikeng was incorporated into Bophuthatswana. The town is flouring and businessmen are satisfied with its economic progress. "Mafikeng is thus an example of a community in which people of various population groups can live in harmony without the domination of the one over another either in the economic or social arena."

Reversion to Banning

In an article on page 4, Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 13 March notes that with the banning of Mkhuseli Jack and Henry Fazzie this week, "the number of South Africans banned in terms of the Internal Security Act has now risen to 12." Six bannings are coming up for review, three at the end of this month, so the total may drop — "unless the government has decided to revert to this method of restricting anti-apartheid activists." However, with the recent banning order, "it seems that the number of restriction orders is rising again."

CAPE TIMES on Guguletu Shootings

In an editorial on page 8, the *CAPE TIMES* raises questions concerning the shootout between several alleged ANC guerillas and the police. Among its many questions concerning the shooting, it asks: "why was the group wiped out to the last man, throwing away a priceless opportunity of securing intelligence which could help secure the region against guerilla attacks in the future?" It wonders about the significance of statements by witnesses that one was killed as he advanced with his hands up and another was "'finished off' by gunfire as he lay wounded on the ground?" "Members of Parliament — and the public — are entitled to know the facts so that they can draw their own conclusions. The security forces are as accountable to Parliament as are any other branch of the civil service. They are not a law unto themselves. They have no warrant to operate in secret. It is time for Mr Le Grange to answer the questions."

Corpses Missing

Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 16 March [as published] reports on its front page that "eleven corpses of Alexandra unrest victims have vanished from the Government mortuary — leaving just two of the 13 bodies to be buried in the township's planned second mass funeral." The bodies disappeared last week one by one from the Hillbrow mortuary and attendants "aren't saying where the bodies went ... or who took them." According to a member of the funeral committee, which has asked for meetings with the police and coroner on the issue: " 'We think the bodies have been given to the families secretly with instructions to bury them alone — to stop another mass burial. If that's so, we appeal to the families to get in touch with us.' "

Transkei Curfew

Although South Africa's state of emergency has been lifted, "in the Transkei there's little sign of an end to the emergency that has existed in various forms since the early 60s." In particular, the curfew is unlikely to be lifted. President Tutor Ndamase would not comment on the curfew but said that he hoped "the situation in the homeland would soon 'render the measures unnecessary.' "

Vaal Rent Strike

On page 6, the paper reports that "Sharpeville residents have once again vowed not to pay rent and service charges until the Lekoa Town Council meets demands the community made almost 18 months ago." Residents renewed their call for a reduction of rents to R30 per month at the Sharpeville Civic Association. A leader of the association said " 'no amount of pressure and tricks will make the people pay rent until the council meets their demands.' " In a related story on the same page, a correspondent reports that the United Democratic Front's Vaal branch has called on the councillors to resign in a pamphlet which also asked the government to drop death charges against six Sharpeville residents and reduce rents. " 'Instead of meeting our legitimate demands, the government is trying to use apartheid courts to stifle the resistance of our people,' the pamphlet said."

Press Ban Considered

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 15 March carries a report by David Braun on its front page saying that "the government considered invoking powers in terms of two black administration laws to ban the press from today's Guguletu funeral of seven alleged African National Congress insurgents shot by police." Instead, they requested a limitation of numbers. According to Deputy Information Minister Louis Nel, the government could not use the emergency powers to ban the press as they had falled away but " 'considered other legal options, including regulations under the Black Administration Act and the Black (Urban Ares) Consolidation Act, but decided instead to approach the media and work out a gentleman's agreement.' " He added the government had the power to control press access under the Black Administration Act and the Black Consolidation Act.

Whites Must Share Blame for Violence

On page 2, Mike Cadman quotes Craig Williamson, former security policeman, as telling a security seminar in Johannesburg that "white South Africans must share the blame for violence in the townships." " 'Because we believed that the white central government could rule this country, we resisted giving competent leaders real powers. We outlawed power in the hands of real black leaders. Now in some areas only outlaws have any real power. If I were forced to live in Alexandra I would also be a terrorist.' " He said " 'real and effective power must be given to real and effective leaders in the black community,' " a situation which obtained in the white community.

AZASM May Leave Forum

On the same page, the paper reports that the Azanian Students Movement may resign from the National Forum if white leftists are allowed in, as the group regards the forum as a forum for black unity.

Civil Service Increases

"Public Service salaries generally are to be raised by more than the 10 percent the public has been told," the paper reports on page 7. David Braun quotes PFP finance spokesman Schwartz as saying that while it was normal for a person to get more pay after a promotion, " 'there are a lot of people who do the same work and whose remuneration is adjusted by a variety of means to upgrade the overall pay.' " He said the public was being mislead about this.

Destruction of Families

"Laws allowing resettlement of communities and migrant labour must be removed to prevent structural disintegration of the family, the director of the Family Life Centre in Johannesburg said this week," the paper reports on the same page. She related family separation to alcohol and drug abuse and called for programs to increase housing available in places where needed.

Life in Kagiso

An article entitled "A Taste of Life in Kagiso" on the same page reports that a policeman's home was petrol-bombed and a vigilante threatened to kill a bishop, whose dog was later found shot. And petrol bombs had been thrown at the home of a constable. "Kagiso people have learnt to live with violence," says Lesley Cowling, who spent a night at the home of Bishop William Kunene. Although the township is peaceful and somewhat prosperous during the day, "at night it changes." People are afraid to go outside at night and police vehicles cruise the streets. "And you cannot help thinking how it must be to go to bed night after night ... wondering whether vigilantes will arrive."

Apartheid in Hillbrow

An article on page 2 says that "despite talks of reform and promises that discriminatory legislation is to be abolished, apartheid is very much alive, according to coloured residents of a block of flats in Hillbrow, Johannesburg." Colored tenants told Sue Dobson that although they were told the area was a "grey area", and they believed they would not be harassed for being "the wrong color," white apartment owners had complained to police. A police spokesman confirmed complaints were being investigated and said that " 'The Group Areas Act is still on the law books.' " " 'Although the public sees Hillbrow as a 'grey area', it is legally still a white area.' "

STAR on Budget

In an editorial on page 10, *THE STAR* says that this year's budget is of particular significance. If the finance minister has taken noted of "the intelligent, concerned voices, he'll have realised that South Africa's future prosperity hinges on the need to slash Government spending." Although some spending proposals are of prime importance, for example black education, "billions are spent in various ways on propping up an apartheid system which is discredited, unworkable and in tatters." State expenditure needs to be reduced in this sphere, and incentives need to be given for private sector expansion which "automatically translates into more jobs, higher pay and less inflation." "We live in a country which prides itself on its private enterprise infrastructure. It's about time we started using it to its full potential."

Durable Pik Botha

"Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha has to be one of South Africa's most durable politicians," David Braun writes on page 10 in his "political commentary." Only a short while after being repudiated by State President P.W. Botha, the foreign minister had improved relations with all black neighboring states. The removal of the ANC from Botswana was "hailed in certain South Africa circles as a brilliant diplomatic coup for Mr Botha." Of course, there was a strong measure of strong-arm tactics in the various improvements, particularly in Lesotho. However, "sources close to him feel that President Botha's repudiation had actually enhanced Pik Botha's prestige in the regional context. They say the black Africans he deals with were impressed that a Nationalist minister was prepared to risk the wrath of the South African state president by saying he would serve under a black president. This had proved Mr Botha is a man of integrity, they say, and it has made his dealings with his regional coutnerparts so much easier." This has made a substantial contribution to achieving Pretoria's diplomatic goals.

Mine Officials and Union

Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* in English 14-20 March [As published] reports on page 1 that officials at the Rand Mines, which this week "locked out 11,000 workers for participating in sit-in strikes underground — wanted to set up their own trade union for black miners in 1980, according to correspondence in the *WEEKLY MAIL*'s possession." The company, which had experienced strikes, wanted to avoid a vacuum which " 'could be filled by political agitators.' " The company was prepared to channel funds to set up a union through the International Metalworkers Federal in Geneva but were turned down. Company officials denied intending to set up a union or channeling company funds to such a project.

Attacks on UDF

"Political activists serving in UDF-affiliated organisations have become the targets of a spate of petrol-bomb and handgrenade attacks in the past months. The attacks tave left four dead, more than 30 injured and 20 people left homeless," Sefako Nyaka reports on page 2. "The attacks started a long time ago in outlying areas where there are strong conservative, rightwing elements." However, in the past 2 weeks, they have shifted to Pretoria, where more than 11 houses have been petrol-bombed. They also continue in rural areas, however.

New SACC Leader

The South African Council of Churches [SACC] "has launched an intensive search to find a new general secretary before the end of June this year" because its current temporary secretary, Dr Beyers Naude, is 70 years old and is therefore not running, the paper reports on page 3. A search committee has been formed. Some factors in the selection are a growing white conservative backlash to the SACC's role, tension between the SACC and member churches, tension between the SACC and the Western Province Council of Churches, sharp criticism by the new Black Ecumenical Church Leaders Consultation (BECLC) of "white control" of the SACC and rivalry between the black consciousness movement and the nonracial UDF. The BECLC has submitted four names it considers acceptable. In a related article, the paper reports that Dan Vaughan, the assistant SACC general secretary, also plans to quit.

Warmbaths Stayaway

An article by Sefako Nyaka reports on page 7 that more than 60 percent of Warmbaths' black workforce has been laid off as a result of the stayaway "but townships residents are just licking wounds and seem set to renew the battle as soon as they can." After stoning incidents and several buildings being set on fire, the town manager, a Mr Wentzel, had suggested protesters appoint 10 representatives to present their demands, which included lowering rents, the resignation of community councillors, the withdrawal of troops and police from the township, the presentation of the council's financial statement, and the removal of the maximum wage of R100 a month, caused because new companies moving in are told to pay no higher than that. After presenting the demands, the Council of 10 was detained. The stayaway was suspended to " 'analyze the shortcoming of our past battle.' "

Transkei Torture

On page 11, Moira Levy reports that a series of documents on detention without trial in the Transkei "allege that between June and December last year almost 2,000 people were arrested in the territory." The documents say that people are detained for indefinite periods and then released without charges being brought or are tried in tribal courts without the benefit of legal representation. The authors say that torture is " 'common' " and " 'Engcobo police station cells are particularly known for interrogation and torture. Methods of torture include the following:
sjambokking (most common), forced to stand naked holding a chair above the head while whipped and punched, suspended naked from a broomstick positoned between two tables while beaten. Beaten with rods wrapped with electric wire — loose ends protruding, ice placed up the nostrils, while a heater is held up close, twisting the foot around beyond the point of dislocation." One detainee was " 'given electric shocks, hooded with a sack filled with teargas, and pierced several times with a pin.' "

Resistance Politics

"Resistance politics will never be the same again," Anton Harber reports on page 14 after speaking to resistance group leaders after the lifting of the state of emergency. Leaders who had been underground or in detention are reemerging. Underneath a return to normality, important changes have taken place. One UDF leader said ways of operating have been devised "that enable us to withstand expreme repression. We have adapted our organization and structures — and these methods will stay with us.'" He said the state will have more difficulty weakening the organization when it next clamps down. The organization will be further decentralized. Another official said that many people believed the organization was not functioning because the main office was closed but this was not the case and in some ways the organization was stronger than before because " 'we have developed an organizatin that is better able to cope with repression, which we expect to continue.' " Support has grown enormously and new structures have been created. While the struggle was previously led by youths, now they were only one constituent in the struggle. UDF affiliates likewise said they were stronger than in the past. Student leaders continued the struggle in prison with discussion groups, and communication with outside world was maintained. The Transvaal Indian Congress said the emergency had restricted its activities but that it had continued functioning. " 'We weren't on the offensive' " said one official, " 'but we were able to defend our base.' " The Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO) is currently rethinking its strategy and considering a drastic new approach. The organization also now realizes the need to form alliances with the " 'true forces of the left' " which might result in a new alliance of the " 'real left.' "

White Backlash

Jean Le May reports on page 15 about concern in Parliament about white backlash. Fears center on the formation by the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) of a new political party, and meetings between the AWB and the Conservative Party. Le May notes that so far as he is concerned, AWB leader Terre'Blanche "is the most powerful and most dangerous white orator in South Africa today." Terre'Blanche can hold an audience in the palm of his hand and Le May says that "when the chips are down it is the demagogues who win out initially. And the chips are dangerously close to being down in South Africa today." Le May concludes that the National Party should seek support from people who are a long way from Parliament at the moment.

DAILY NEWS Questions Joint Management Centers

MB120835 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0826 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 12, SAPA — The *DAILY NEWS* in Durban today called for a parliamentary review of the concept of joint management centres, [JMC's].

In an editorial the paper said:

Law and order is vital to progress, peace and freedom in South Africa; no rational or responsible person would gainsay that. Responsibility for ensuring this stability and normality rests with the government, with the police, with the Defence Force and with the courts. In the turbulent South Africa of the 80's, there is obviously good reason for putting special emphasis on security matters.

It is to this end, no doubt, that "joint management centres" have been set up. There are 12 such JMC's around the country, it was revealed in Parliament yesterday by the minister of defence; since they were started in 1983, he added, there was nothing really new about them and he gave assurances that they were merely coordinating bodies.

However, the implications of their existence are serious:

That they so closely unite the functions of the police and Defence Force makes for an unhealthy concentration of executive power and weakens the checks and balances inherent in divided power;

That they are dominated by policemen and soldiers gives rise to added fears about the militarisation of authority in the country;

That they are so closely linked to the National Security Council makes for further centralisation of power; and

That they are developing strong regional power casts a shadow over the local civilian authority.

There is cause of disquiet about the development of this network of power and Parliament needs to review the whole concept.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Leaves for Palme Funeral 13 Mar

MB130709 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, left Harare this morning for Stockholm, Sweden, where he will attend the funeral of the Swedish prime minister, Mr Olof Palme, who was assassinated by an unknown assailant late last month.

Comrade Mugabe was seen off at Harare International Airport by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, government ministers, and members of the diplomatic corps. He is being accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende.